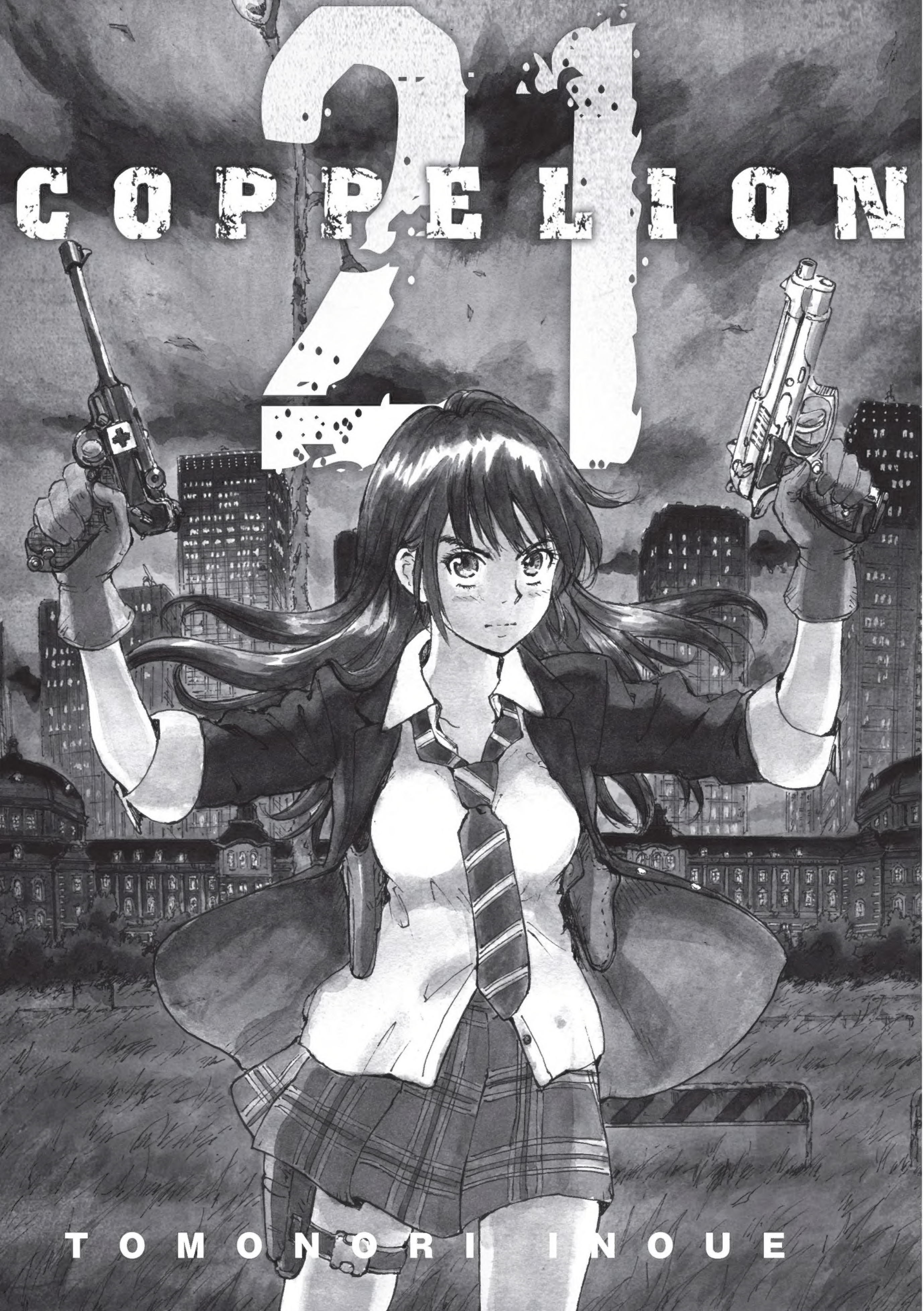
COPPELION コッペリオン

21

井上智徳
TOMONORI INOUE



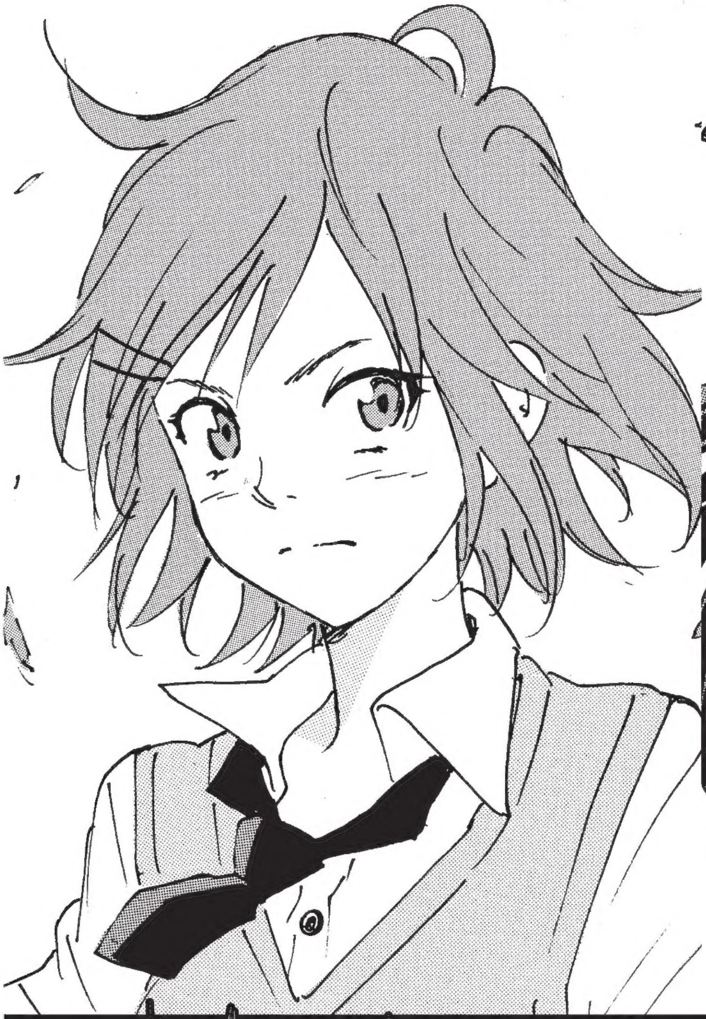
COPPELION

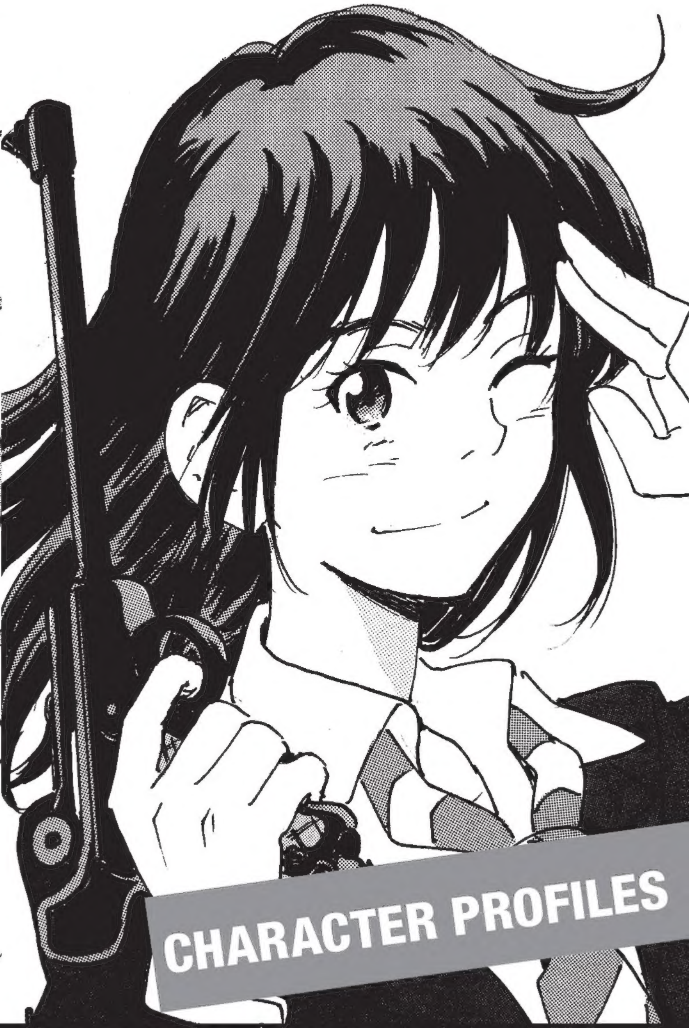
21

TOMONORI INOUE

ELION
KEEP OUT

CHARACTER PROFILES





AOI FUKASAKU

(HIGH SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR)

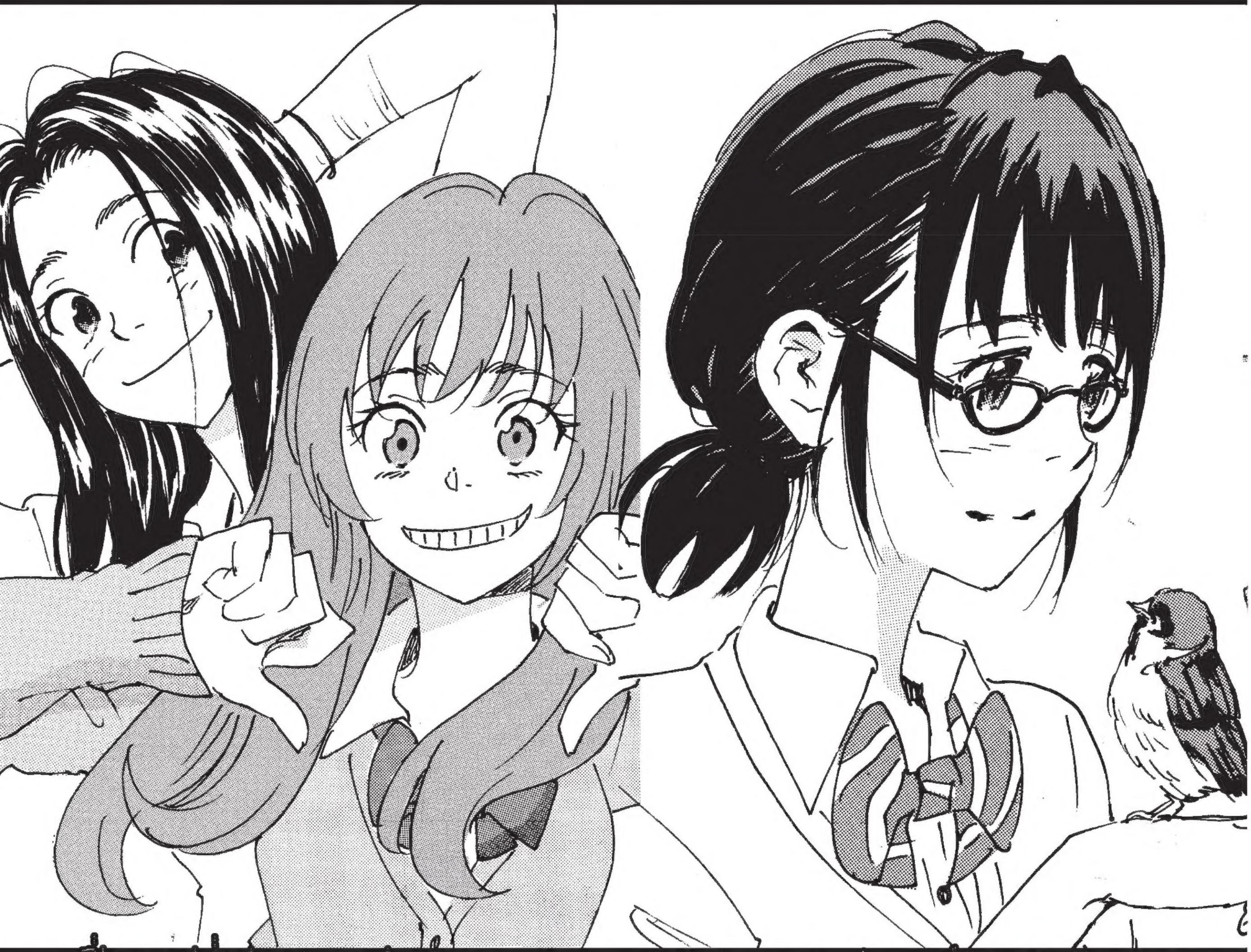
The Medical Unit's cheerful icebreaker. Aoi has a bottomless stomach and a bright personality, but was thought to be a useless, poor student otherwise—except a mysterious power sleeps inside her, as the "complete" Coppelion...

IBARA NARUSE

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

Leader of the Coppelion Medical Unit. She possesses staggering athletic ability, and her combat skills are excellent. Relying on her strong conviction to save everyone in Tokyo to give her strength, she leads the search for survivors. Her speech can be a bit rough.

COPP
KEEP OUT



OZU SISTERS

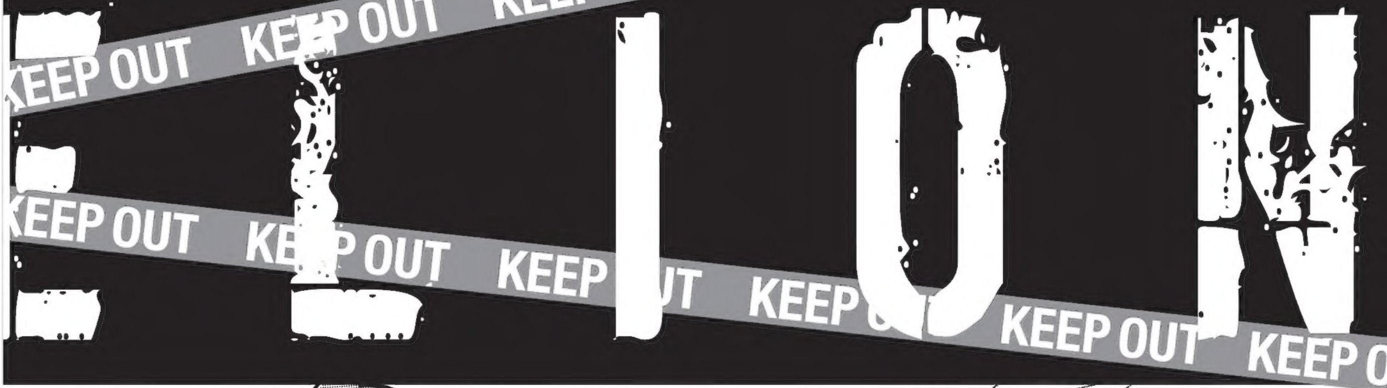
(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEARS)

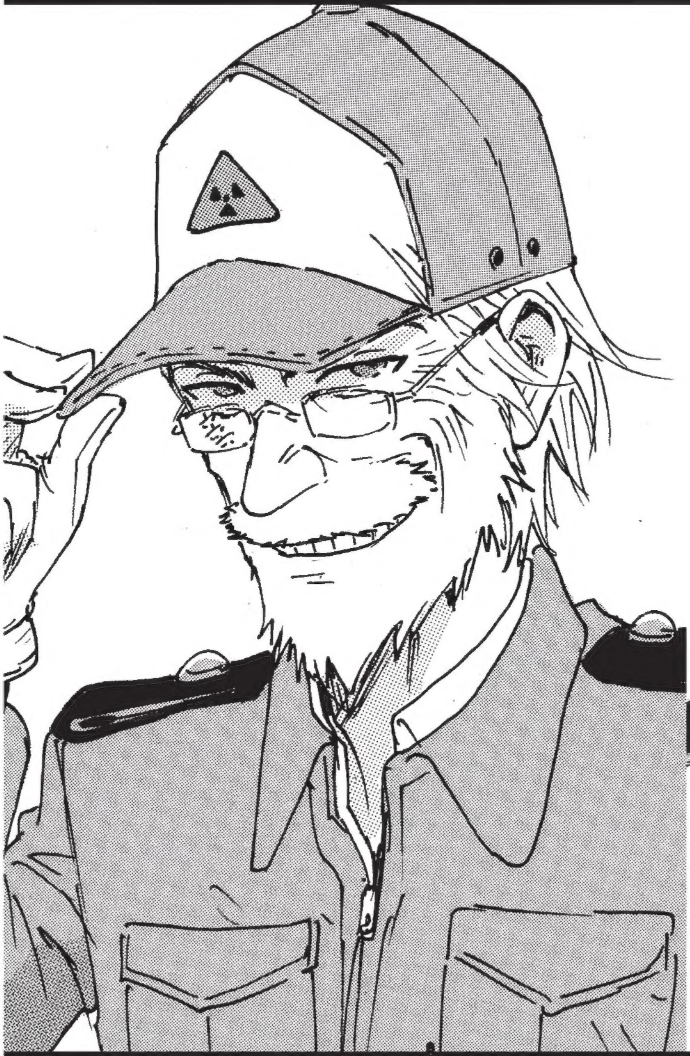
Twin sisters in the Cleanup Crew. Kanon (right), the older sister, can generate lightning, and Shion (left), the younger sister, has super strength. They're both incredibly violent, but reformed after their battle with Ibara.

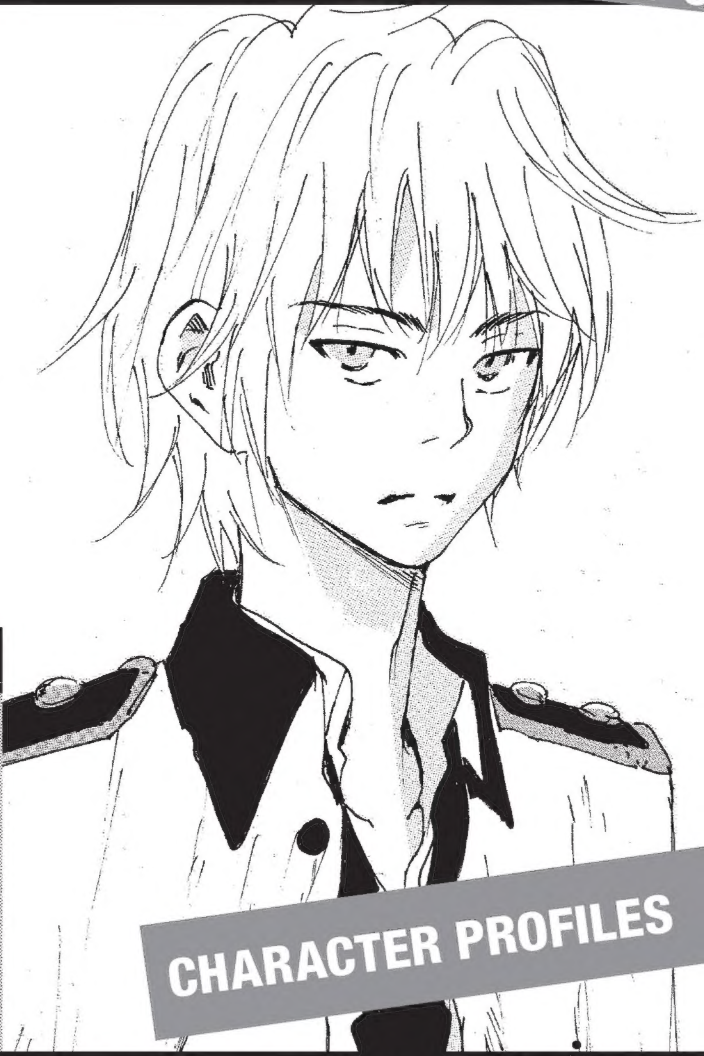
TAEKO NOMURA

(HIGH SCHOOL FIRST-YEAR)

The Medical Unit's comforting member. She's quite knowledgeable and has superhuman senses (she wears glasses to reduce her eyesight to 10% of its true strength, because she sees too far). She loves animals.







CHARACTER PROFILES

DR. COPPELIUS

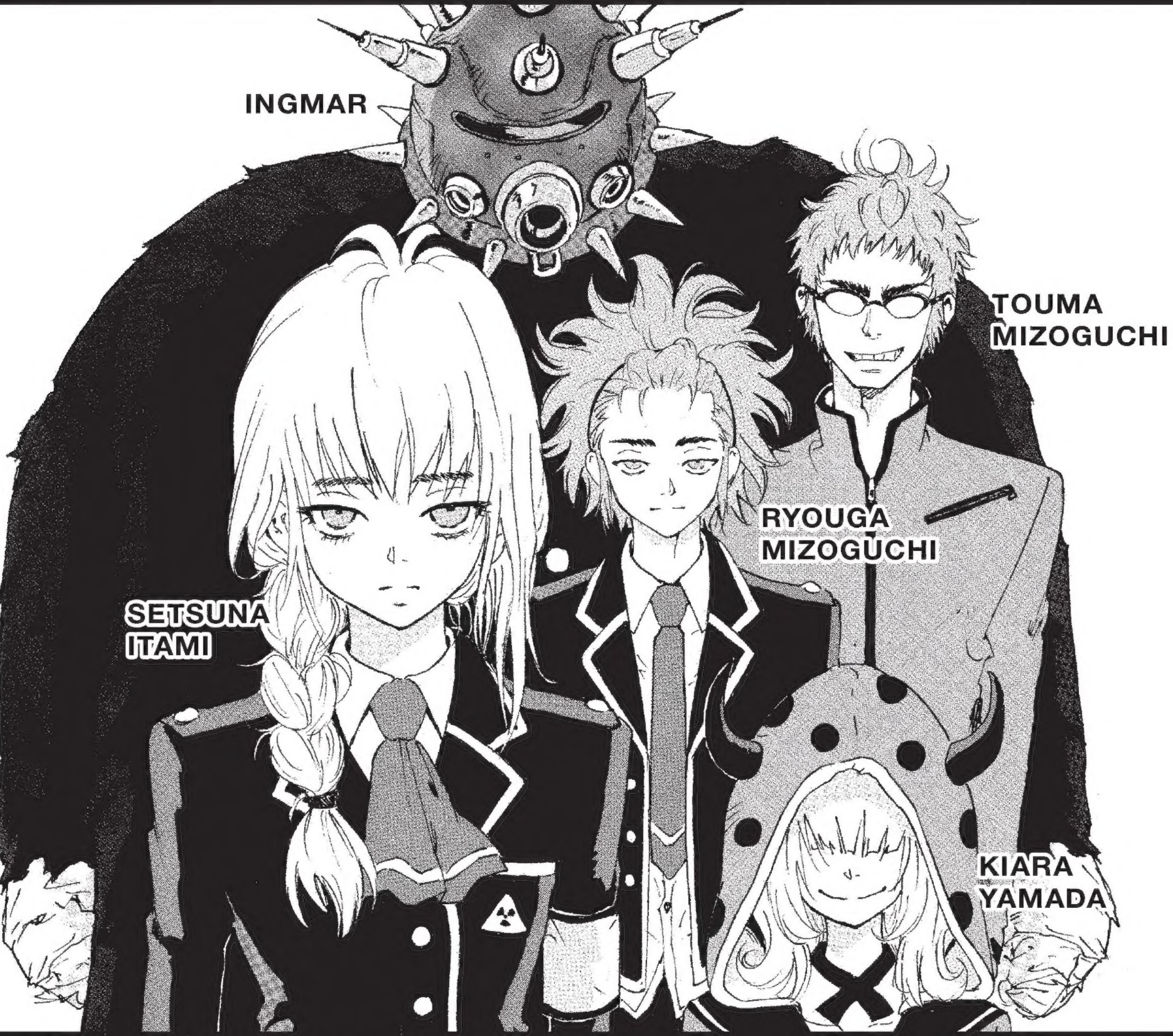
The mad scientist who created the Coppelion. He's using the second-years to help carry out his "grand plan." His target: Aoi Fukasaku, the complete Coppelion. Equipped with "aether plus," a refined version of aether, he's been quite busy in Tokyo...

HARUTO KUROSAWA

(HIGH SCHOOL THIRD-YEAR)

The leader of the Cleanup Crew. He has ultra-regeneration powers. A clone of Dr. Coppelius, he has a brilliant mind and always keeps his cool. He sacrificed himself to stop the fire at Shelter 109, but...

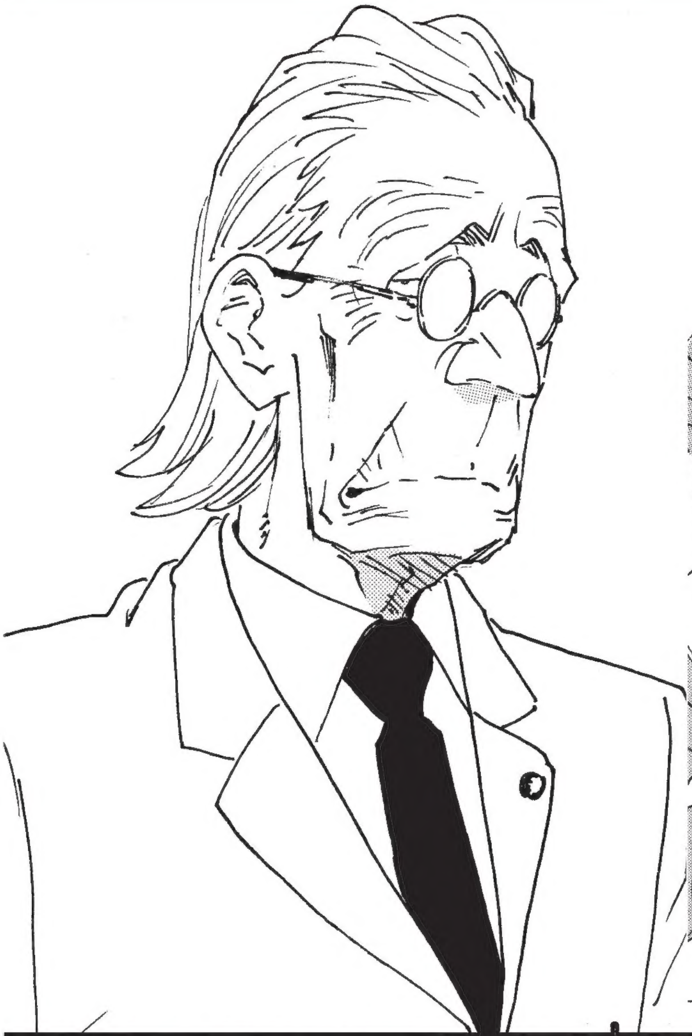
COPP
KEEP OUT

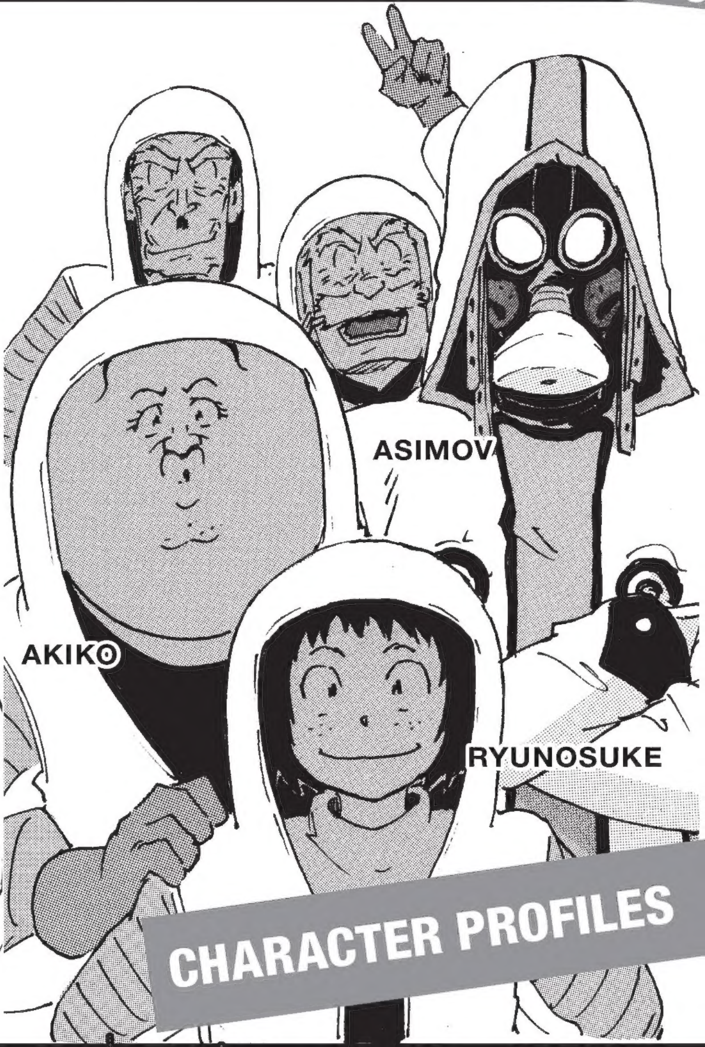

INGMAR
TOUMA MIZOGUCHI
RYOUGA MIZOGUCHI
SETSUNA ITAMI
KIARA YAMADA

RETRIEVAL UNIT

A group of Coppelion who were dispatched to Tokyo specifically to secure Aoi Fukasaku. Currently under the command of the three professors, who have gone rogue against the Japanese government. There special kill switches implanted in their heads, and if they disobey their orders, they could be killed at a moments notice. It seems they each have their own fierce special powers. Their leader, Setsuna Itami, is in particular a force to be reckoned with—she even took down a Fossiloid completely by herself.

CHARACTER PROFILES



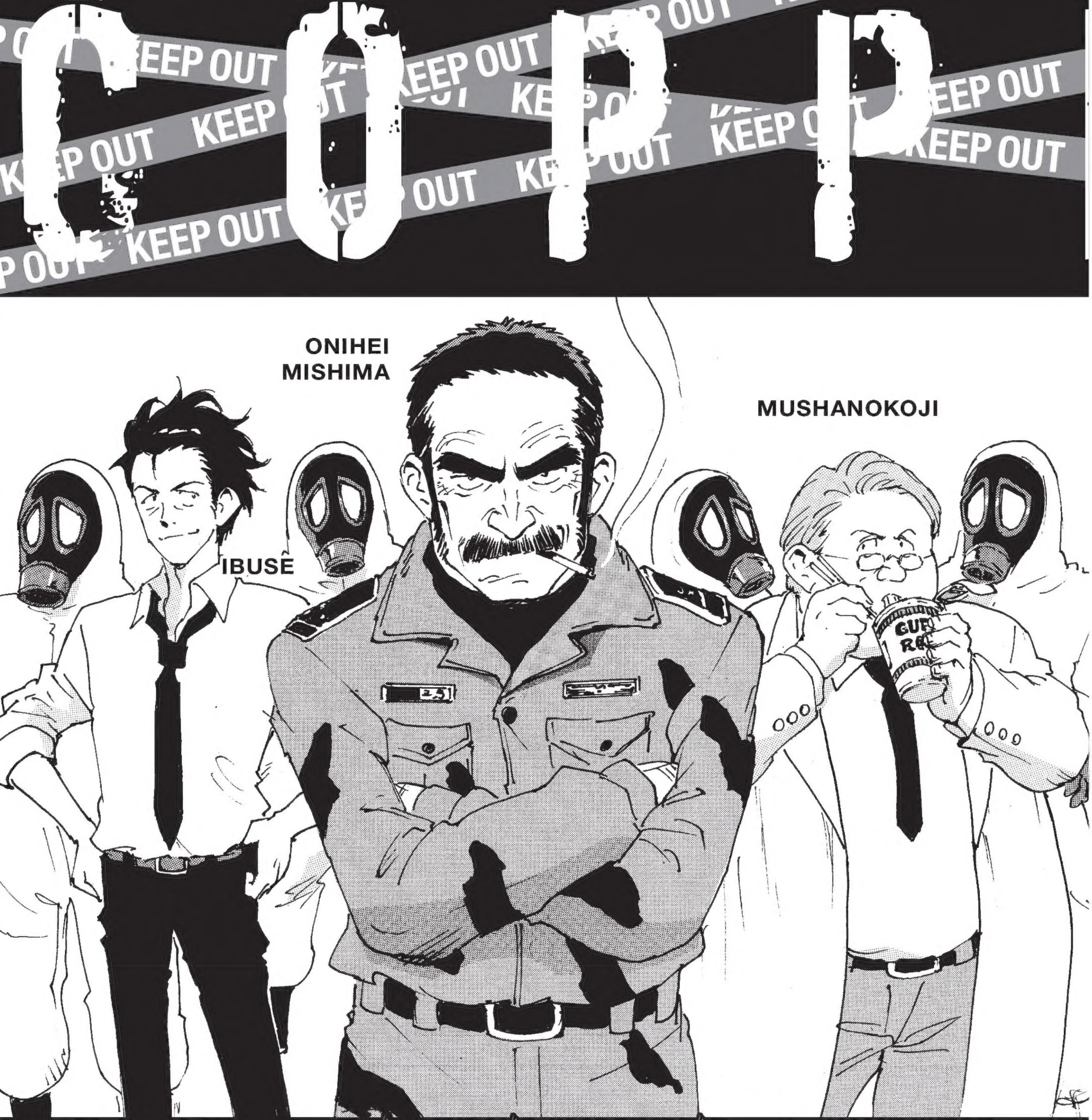


MASAMUNE OUGAI

A cold-hearted man controlling the Japanese government from the shadows as Chief Cabinet Secretary. He wants to capture Aoi Fukasaku in order to secure the means to create more complete Coppelion, and ordered Ibara and the others to hand her over. He sent the "Black Wings" unmanned fighter drones to bomb Tokyo and flush them out.

SHIBUYA AREA SURVIVORS

The survivors who'd been living in Shelter 109, Shibuya. Now that contaminated water has flooded their shelter, they're determined to finally escape Tokyo, and are heading to Haneda with Ibara and company. There are 55 survivors in all.

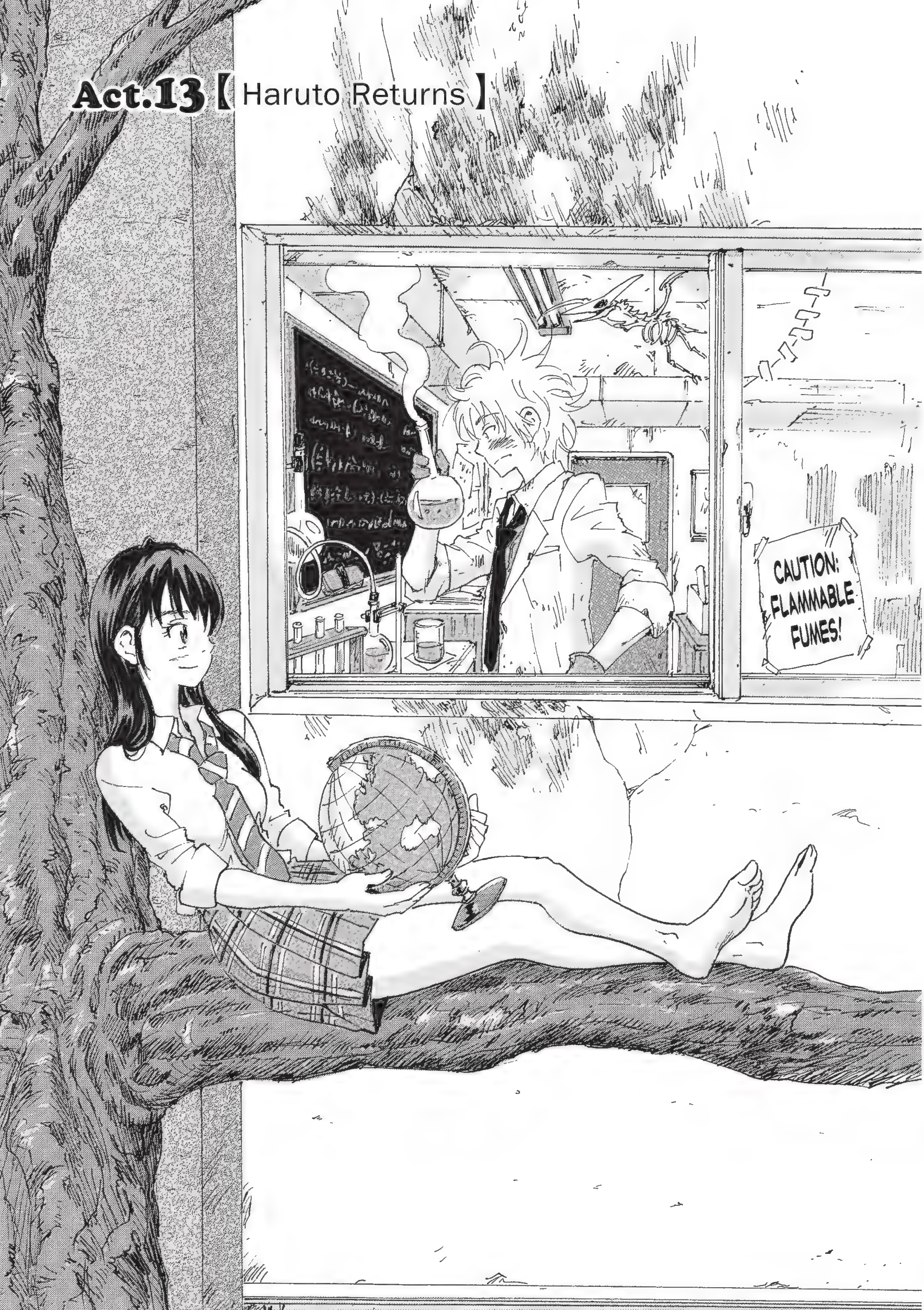


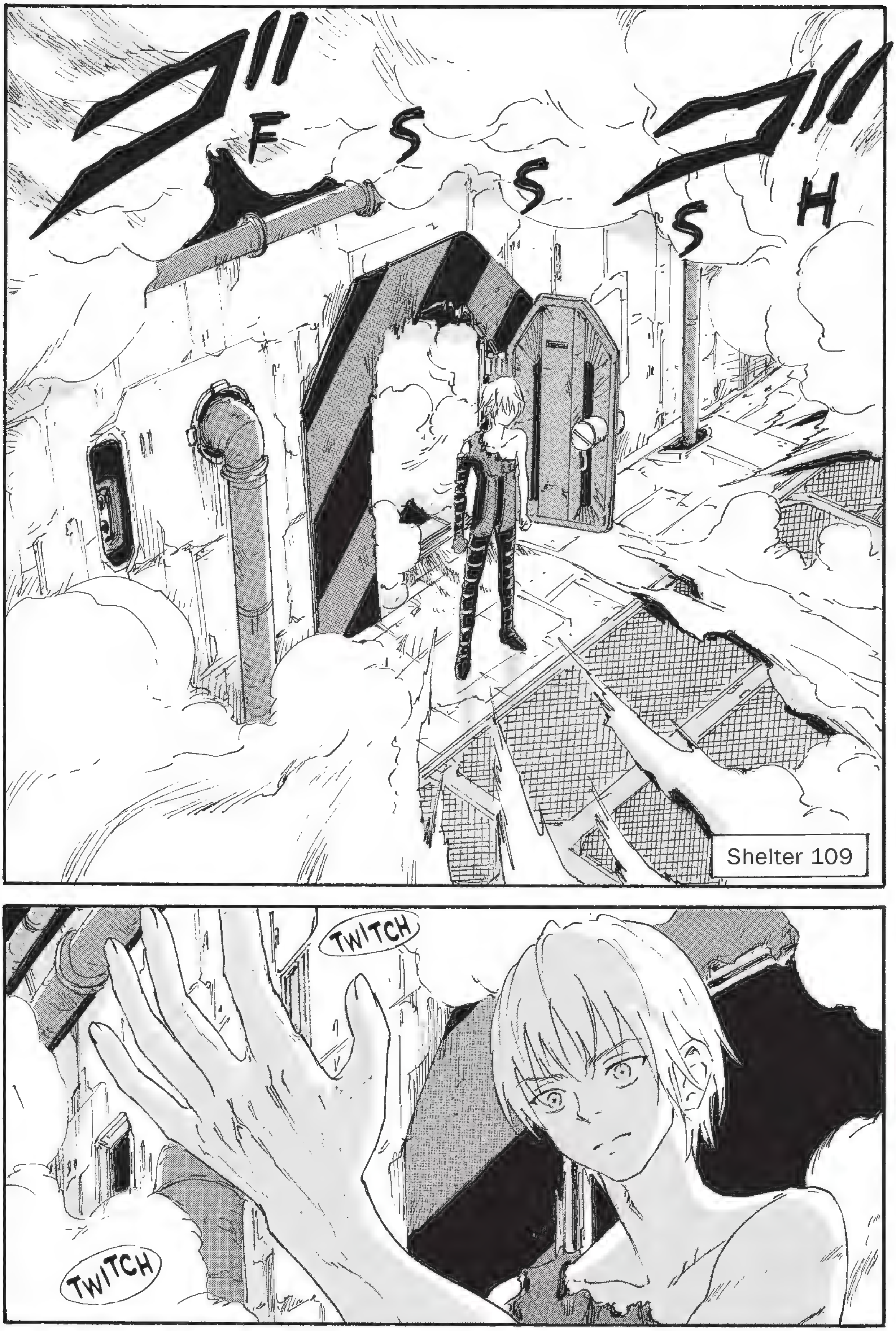
GROUND SELF-DEFENSE FORCE 3RD DIVISION

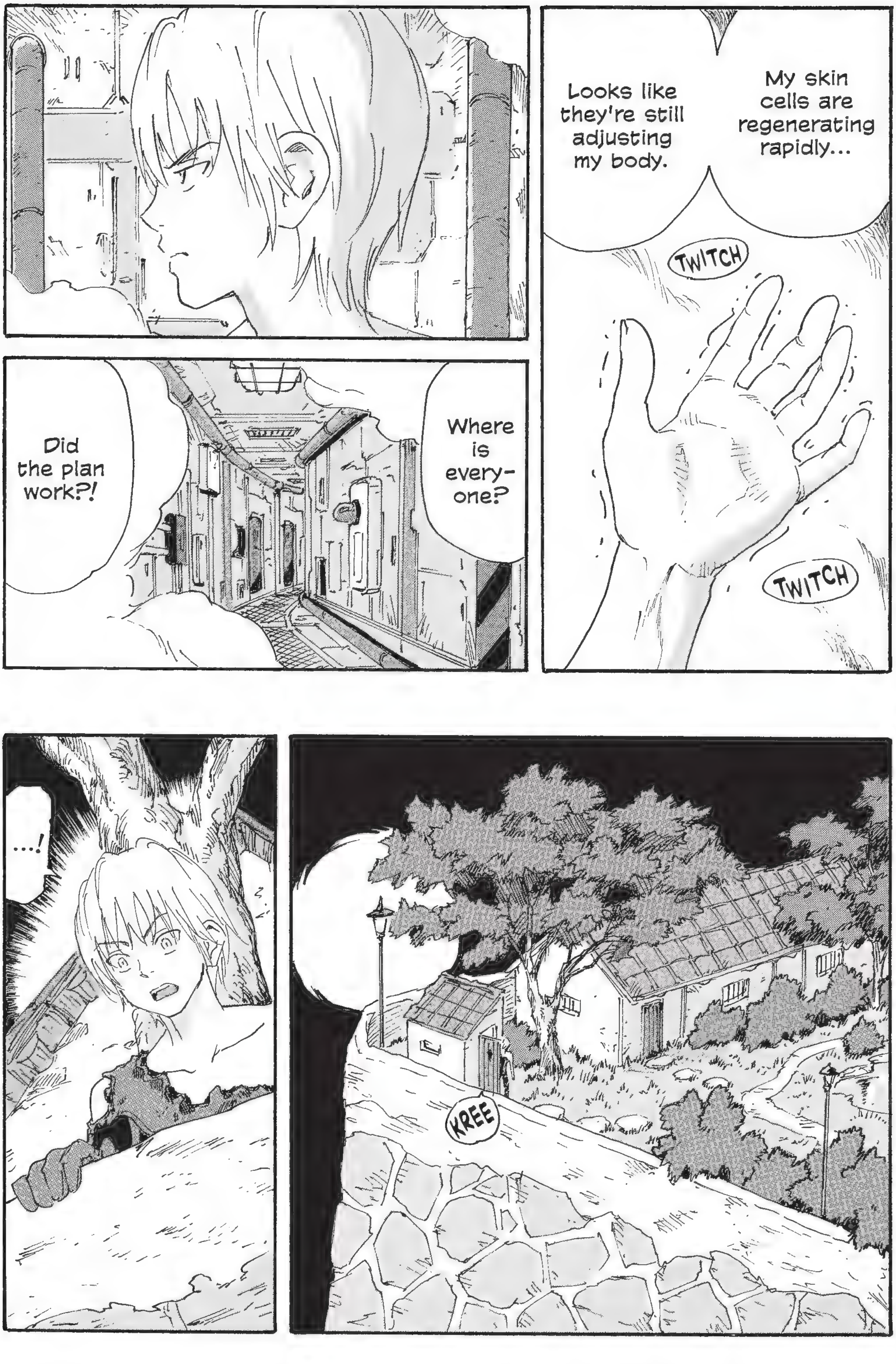
The many faces of the JGSDF unit to which the Coppelion belong. They were placed in charge of the Tokyo survivor evacuation plans. Onihei Mishima, the division commander, is also vice principal of the special JSDF technical school the Coppelion attended. Assisting Mishima are Ibuse, chief engineer Mushanokoji, and many more, who have been acting as backup for the Coppelion as they carry out their duty. Committed to evacuating the final survivors, they stole the submarine Genryu from the government and are now traveling underwater...

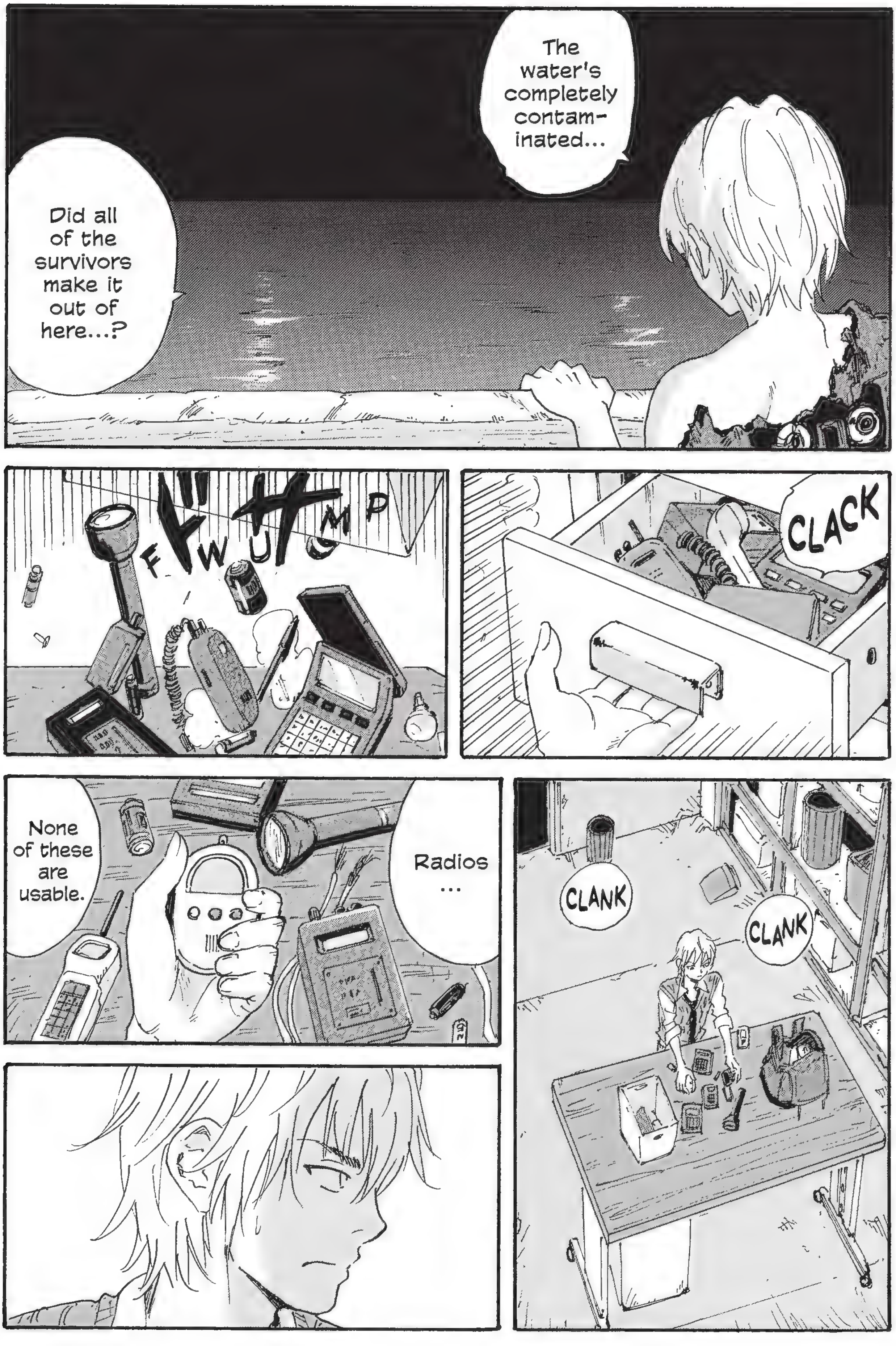
COPPELION
コッペリオン

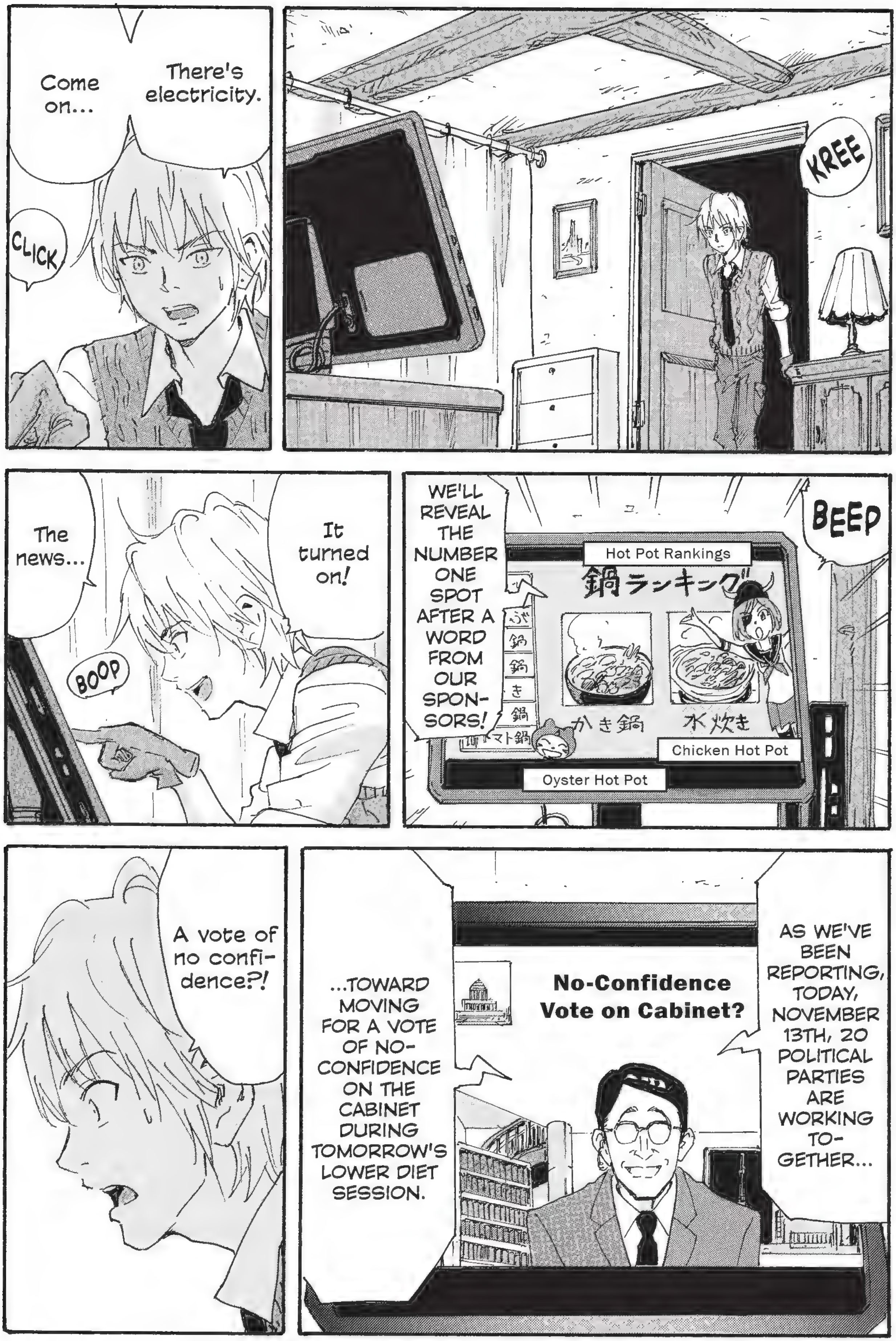
Act.13【Haruto Returns】

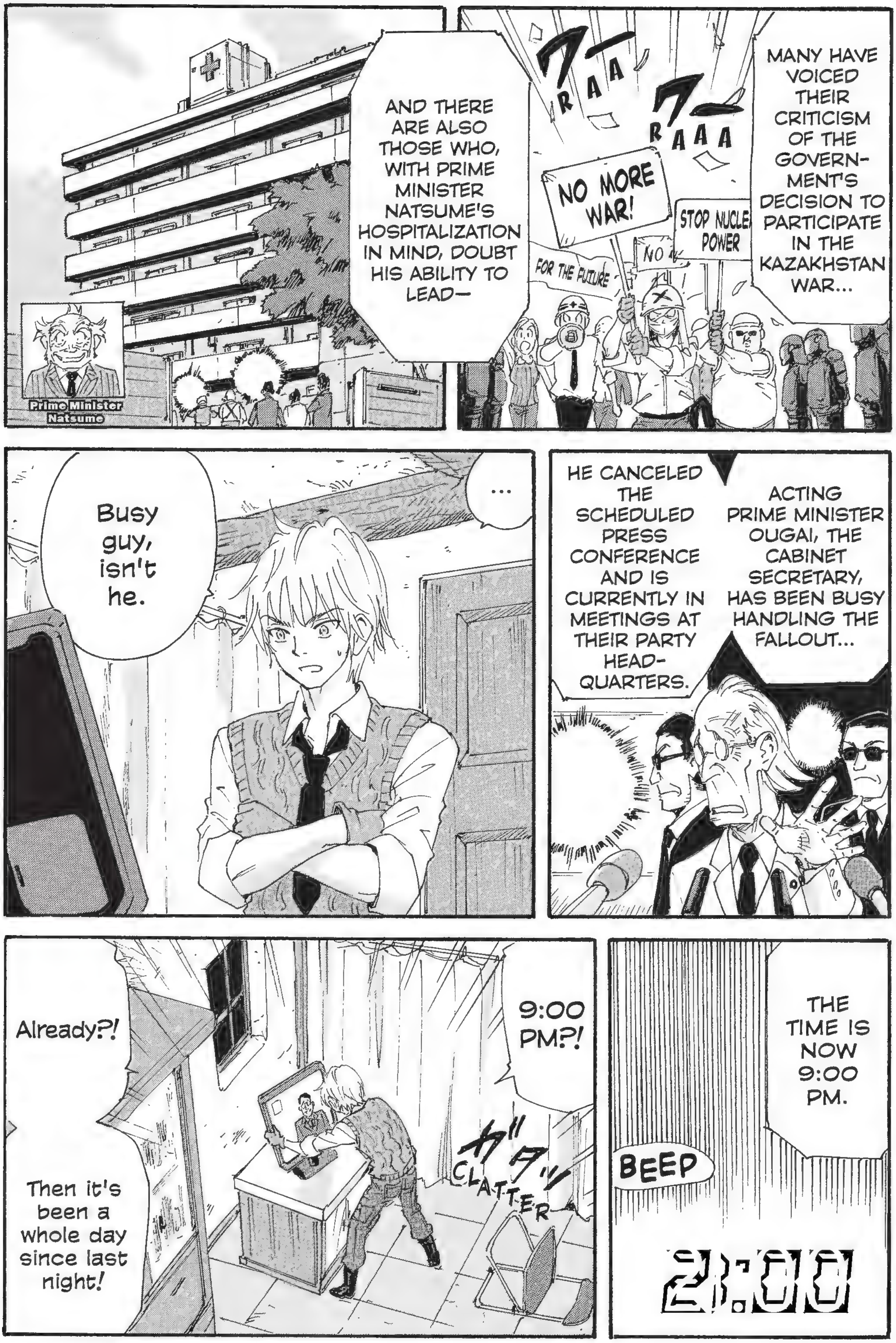

CAUTION:
FLAMMABLE
FUMES!

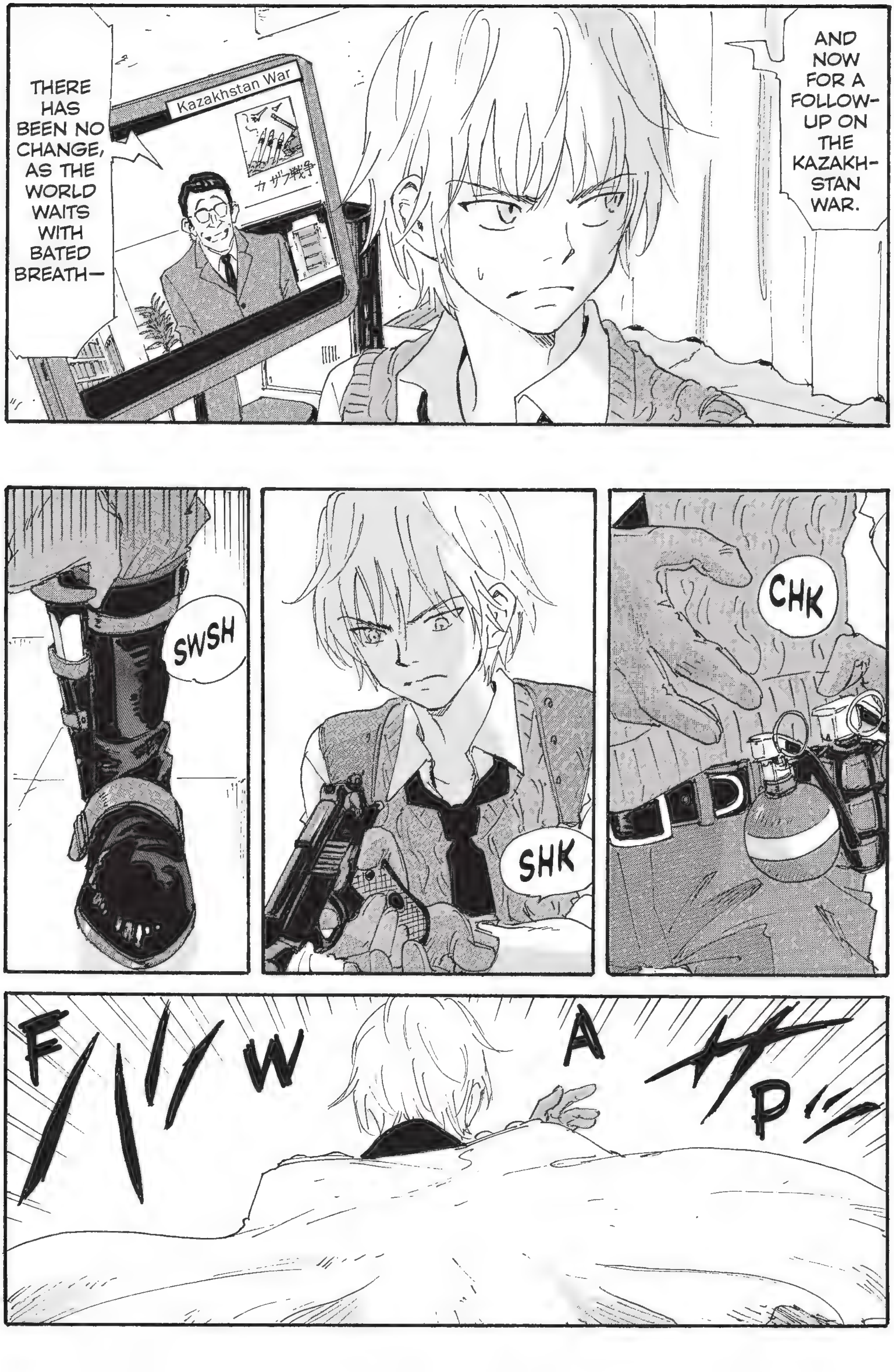

ゴ
FSSSH
ゴ
Shelter 109
TWITCH
TWITCH

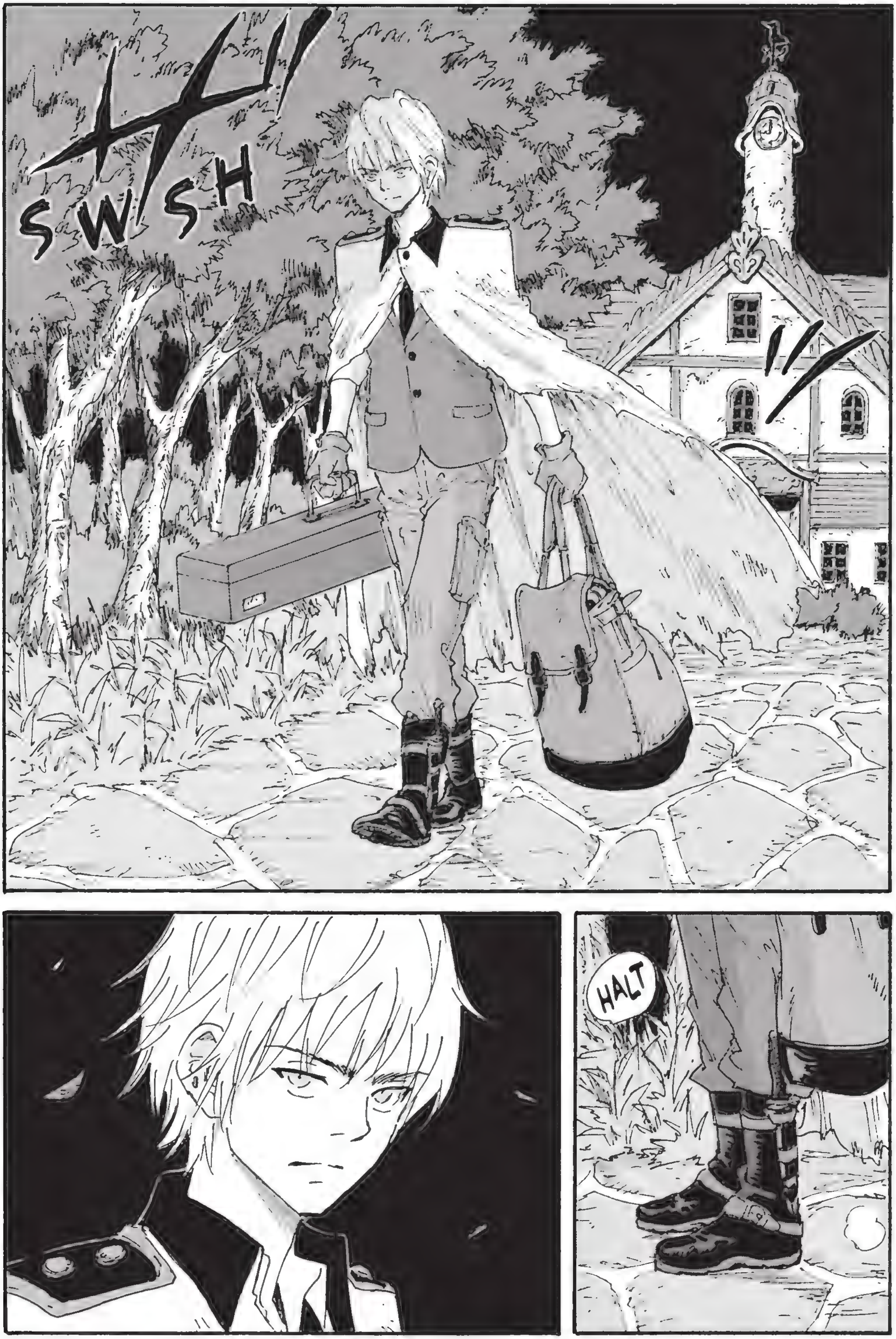

My skin cells are regenerating rapidly...
Looks like they're still adjusting my body.
TWITCH
TWITCH
Where is every-one?
Did the plan work?!
KREE
...!

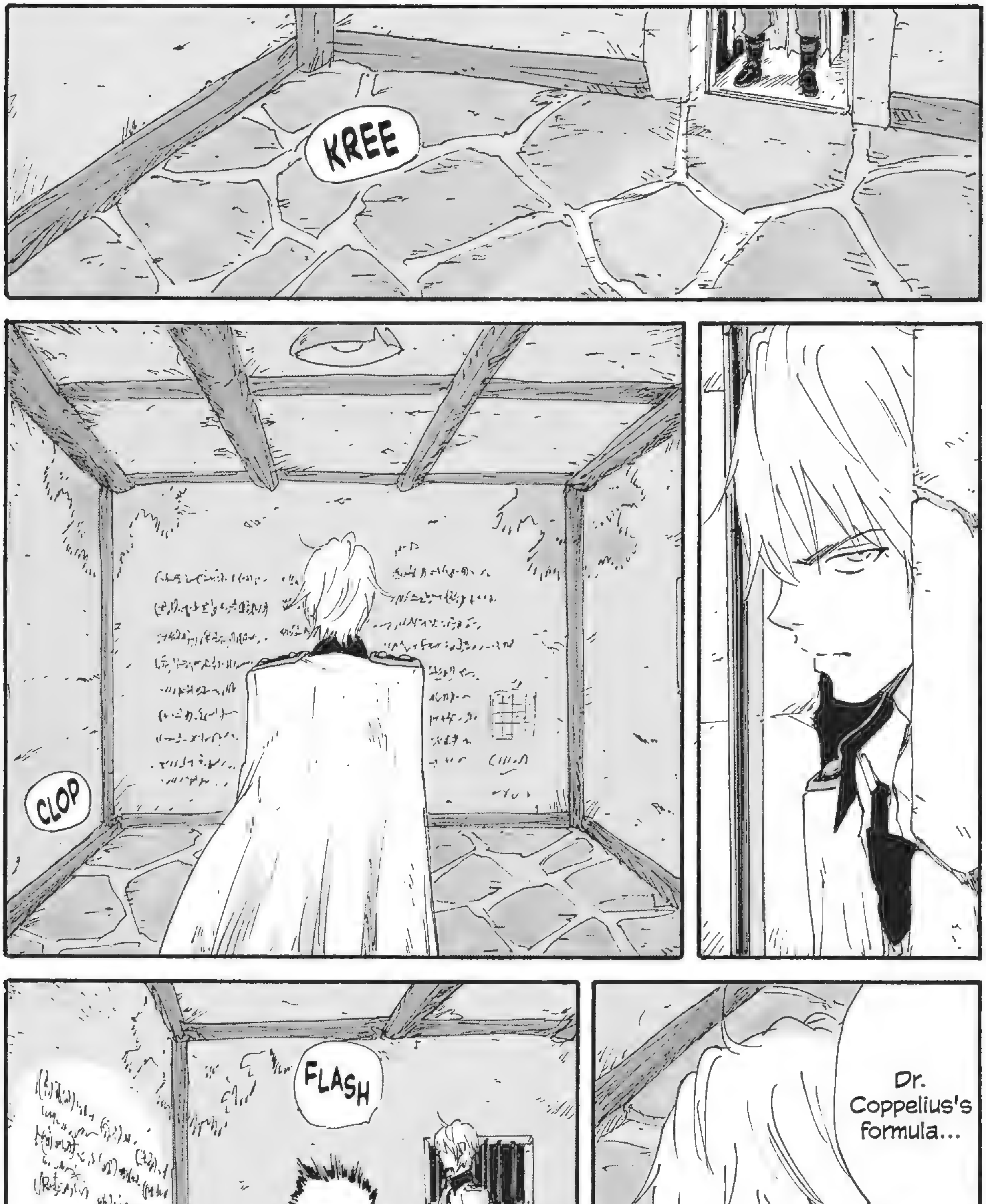

The water's completely contaminated...
Did all of the survivors make it out of here...?
CLACK
FWUMP
CLANK
CLANK
Radios...
None of these are usable.

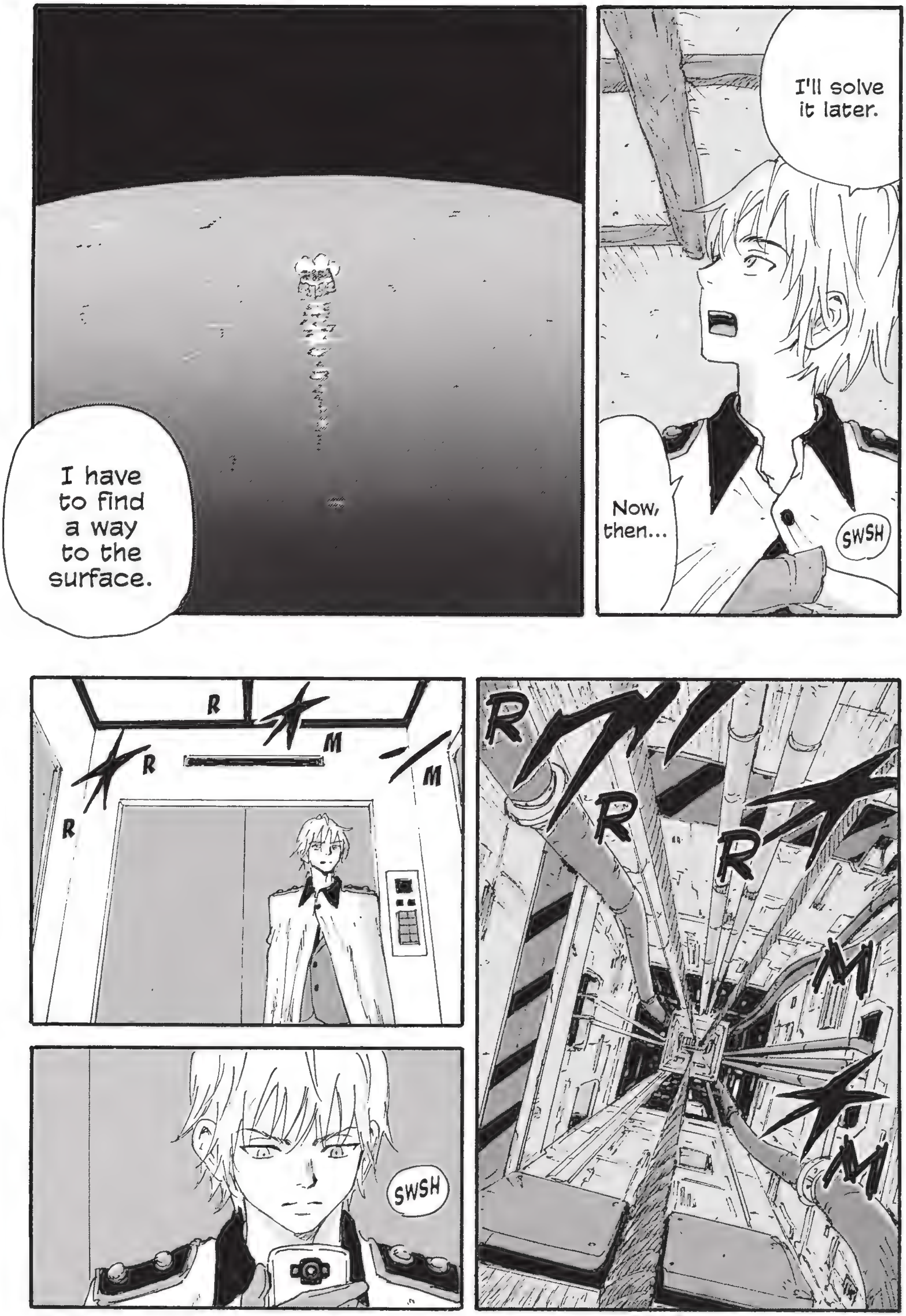

KREE
There's electricity.
Come on...
CLICK
BEEP
WE'LL REVEAL THE NUMBER ONE SPOT AFTER A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS!
Hot Pot Rankings
鍋ランキング
水炊き
Chicken Hot Pot
かき鍋
Oyster Hot Pot
It turned on!
The news...
BOOP
AS WE'VE BEEN REPORTING, TODAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 20 POLITICAL PARTIES ARE WORKING TOGETHER...
No-Confidence Vote on Cabinet?
...TOWARD MOVING FOR A VOTE OF NO-CONFIDENCE ON THE CABINET DURING TOMORROW'S LOWER DIET SESSION.
A vote of no confidence?!

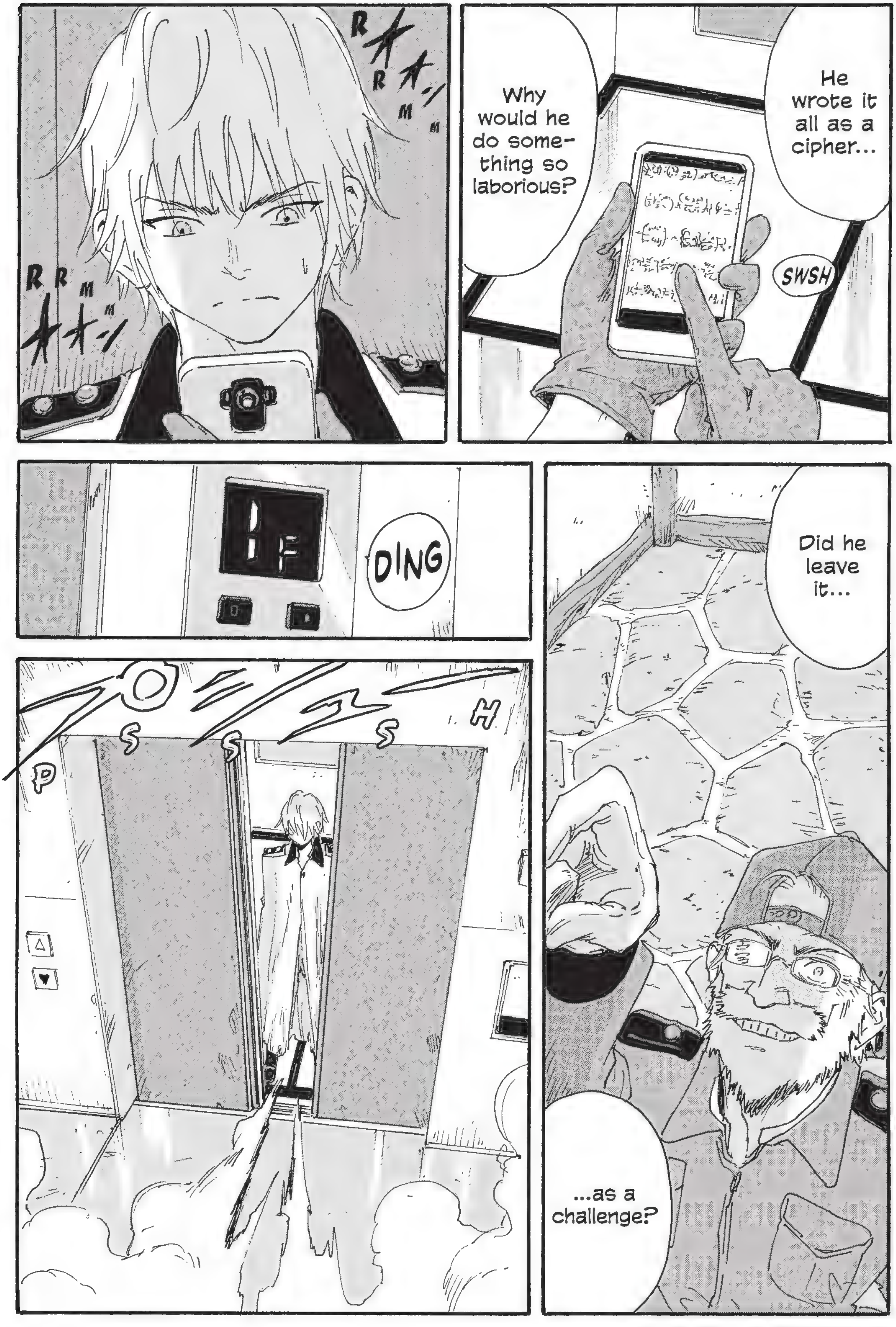

MANY HAVE VOICED THEIR CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KAZAKHSTAN WAR...
ワー RAA
ワー RAAA
NO MORE WAR!
STOP NUCLE POWER
NO
FOR THE FUTURE
AND THERE ARE ALSO THOSE WHO, WITH PRIME MINISTER NATSUME'S HOSPITALIZATION IN MIND, DOUBT HIS ABILITY TO LEAD—
Prime Minister Natsume
ACTING PRIME MINISTER OUGAI, THE CABINET SECRETARY, HAS BEEN BUSY HANDLING THE FALLOUT...
HE CANCELED THE SCHEDULED PRESS CONFERENCE AND IS CURRENTLY IN MEETINGS AT THEIR PARTY HEADQUARTERS.
...
Busy guy, isn't he.
THE TIME IS NOW 9:00 PM.
BEEP
21:00
9:00 PM?!
ガタッ CLATTER
Already?!
Then it's been a whole day since last night!

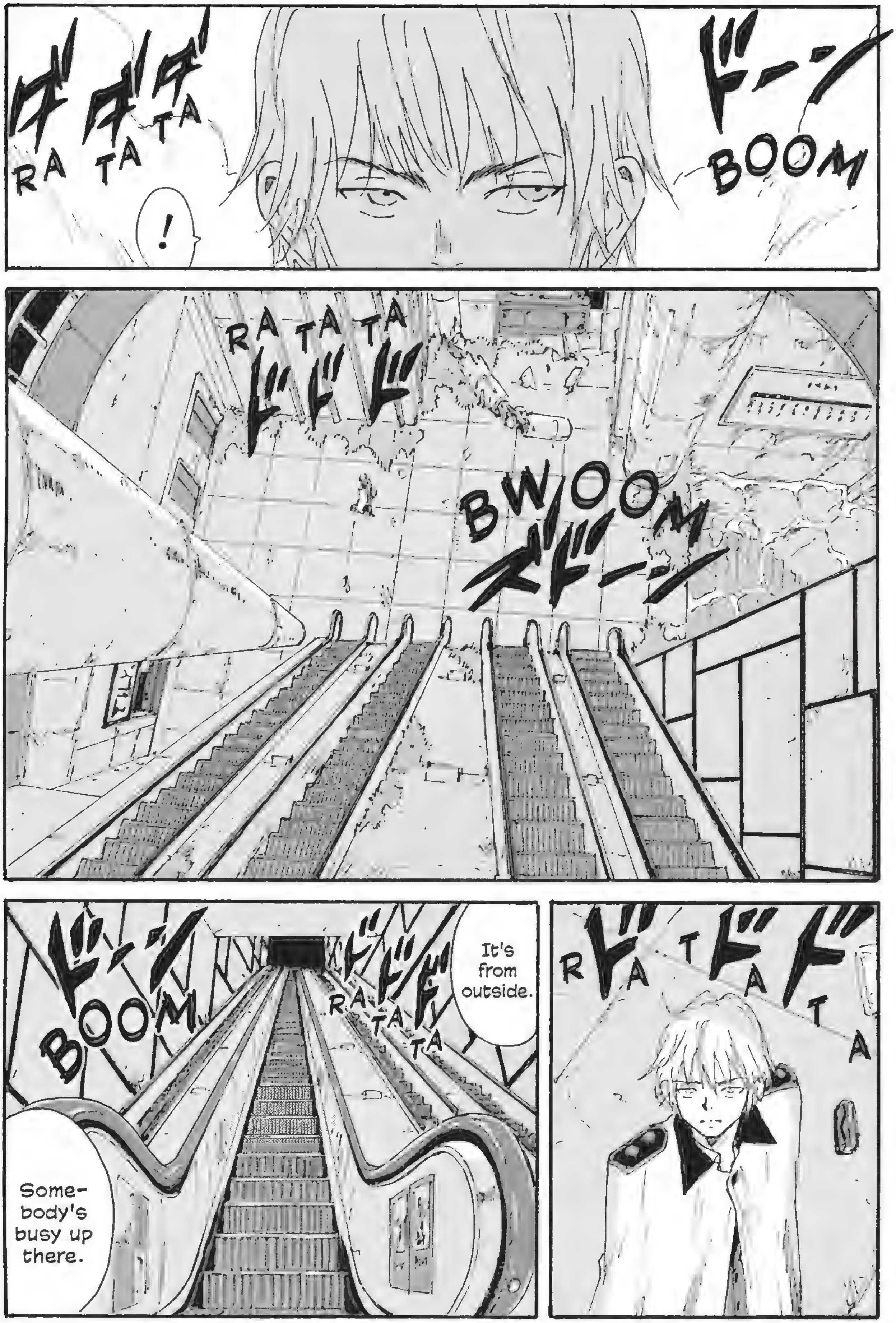

AND NOW FOR A FOLLOW-UP ON THE KAZAKHSTAN WAR.
Kazakhstan War
カザフ戦争
THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE, AS THE WORLD WAITS WITH BATED BREATH—
CHK
SHK
SWSH
FWAP

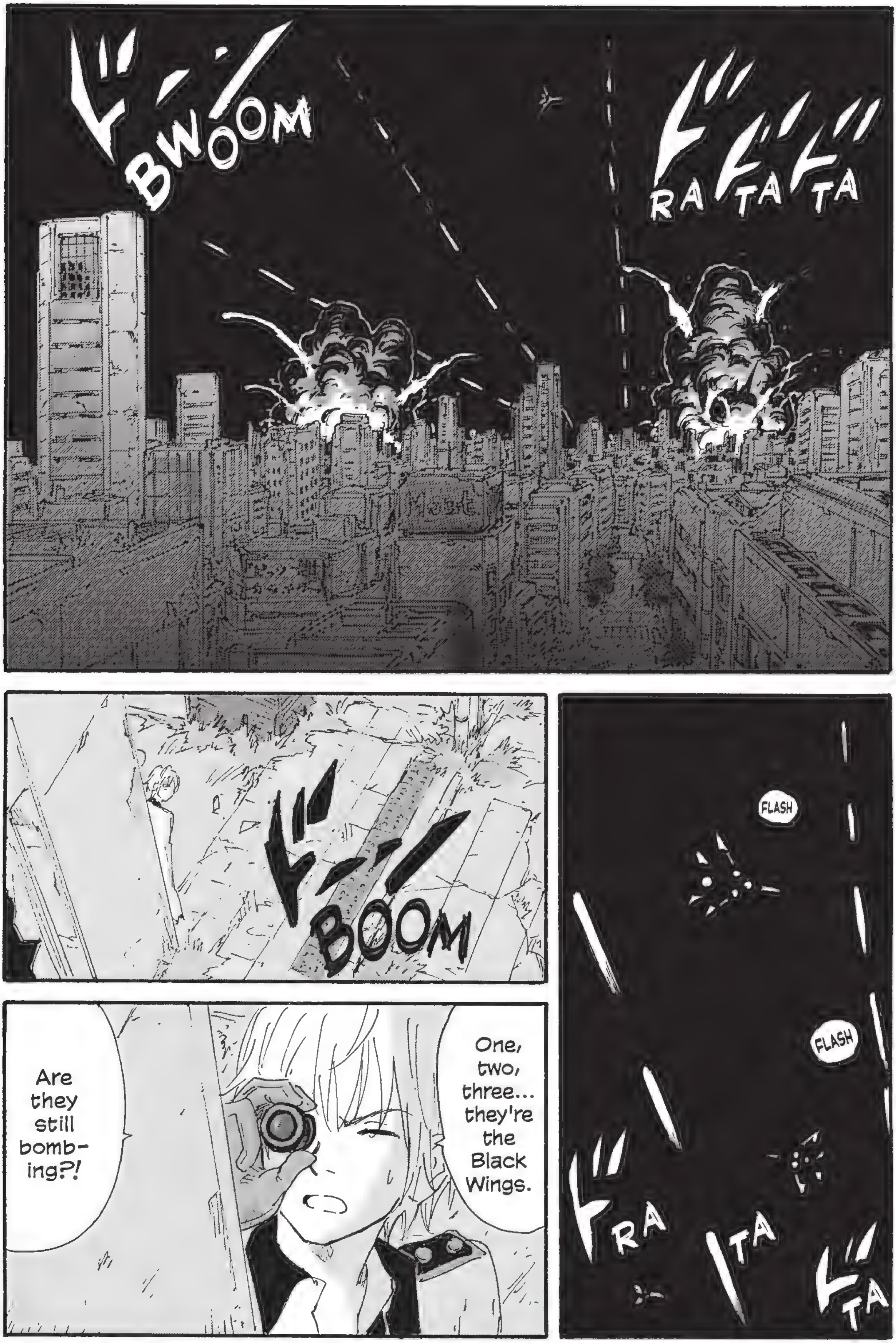

SWSH
HALT

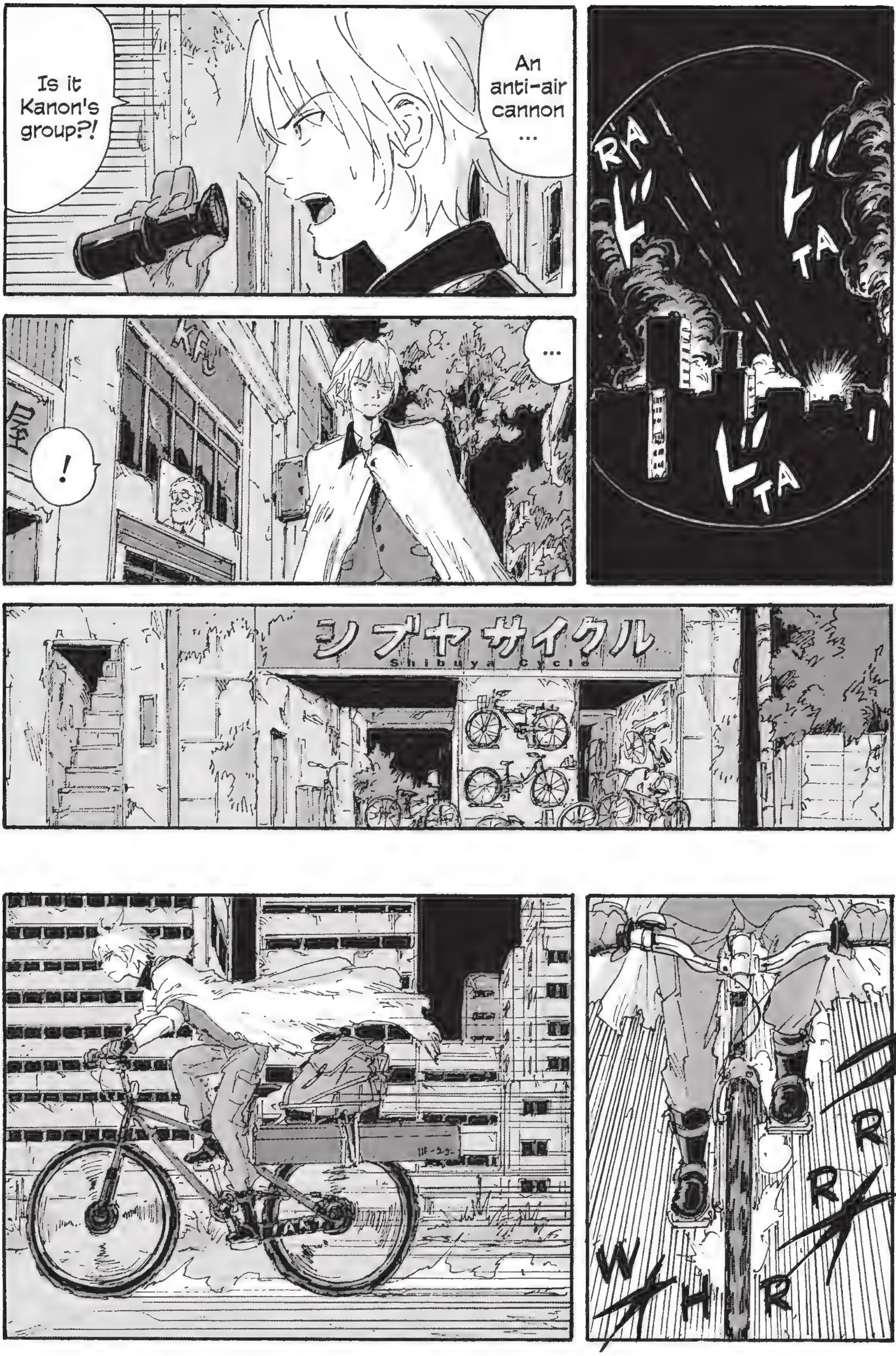

KREE
CLOP
FLASH
FLASH
Dr. Coppelius's formula...

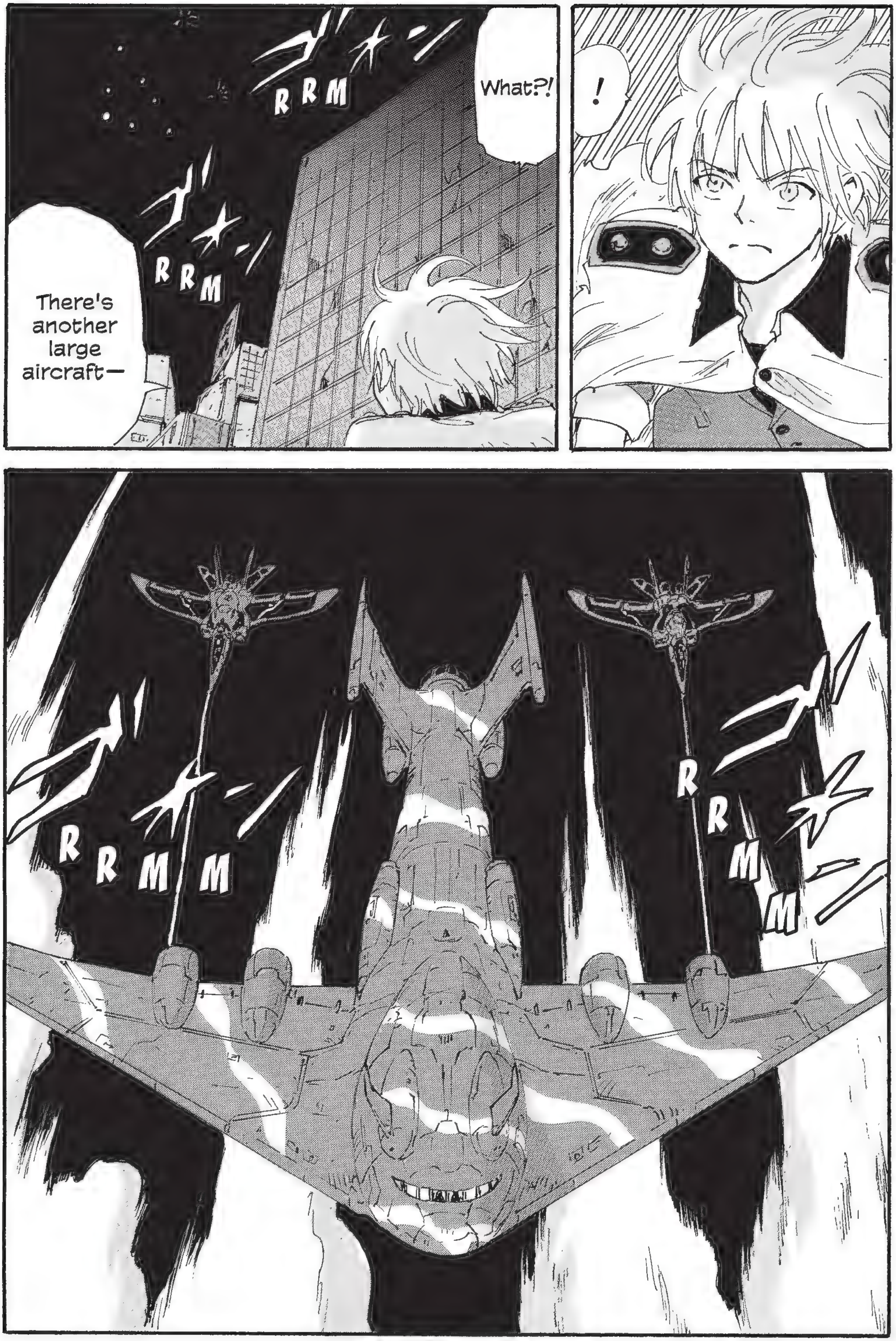

I have to find a way to the surface.
I'll solve it later.
Now, then...
SWSH
R
R
R
M
M
SWSH
R
R
R
M
M
M

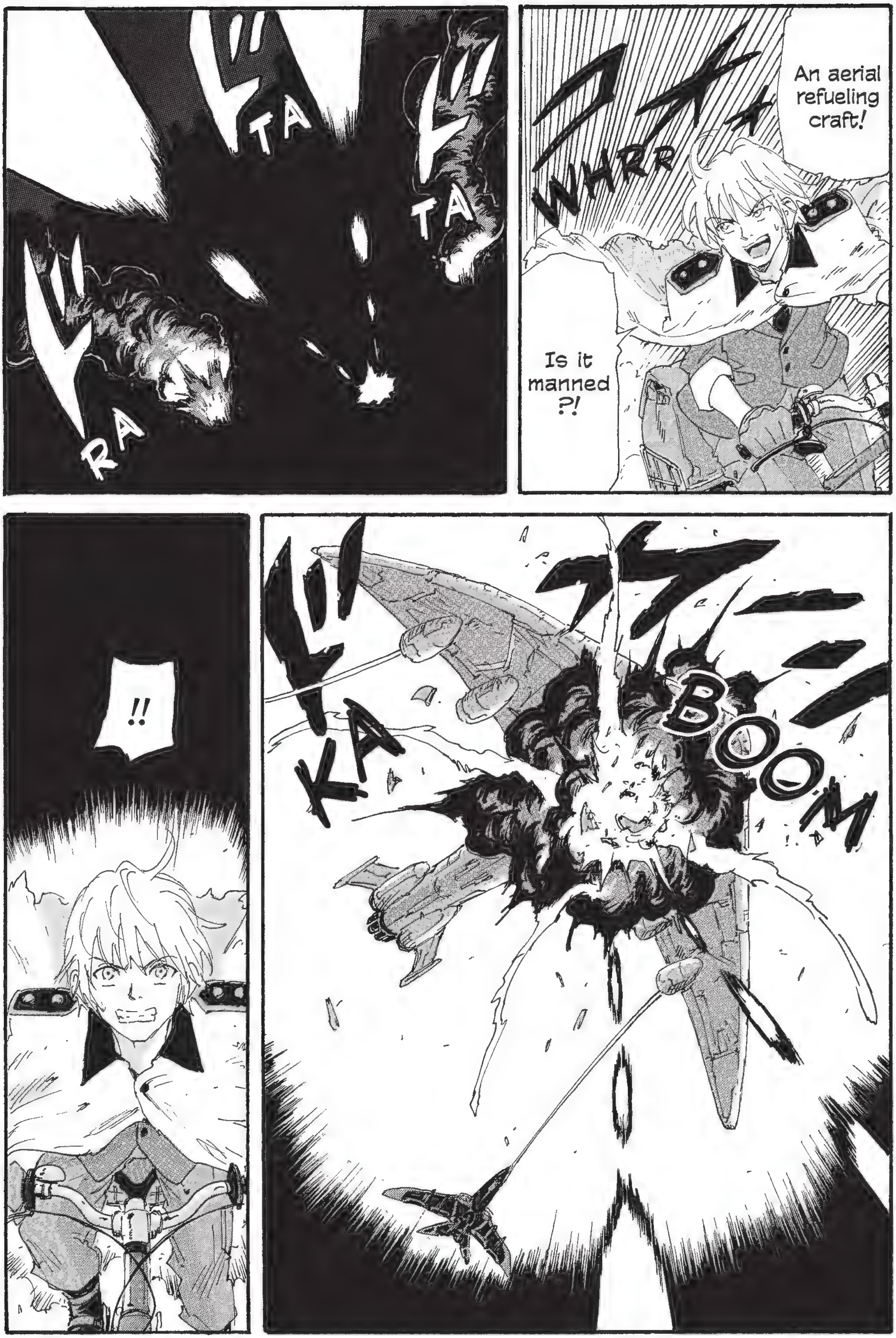

He wrote it all as a cipher...
Why would he do something so laborious?
SWSH
RRMM
RRMM
Did he leave it...
DING
1F
PSSSH
...as a challenge?

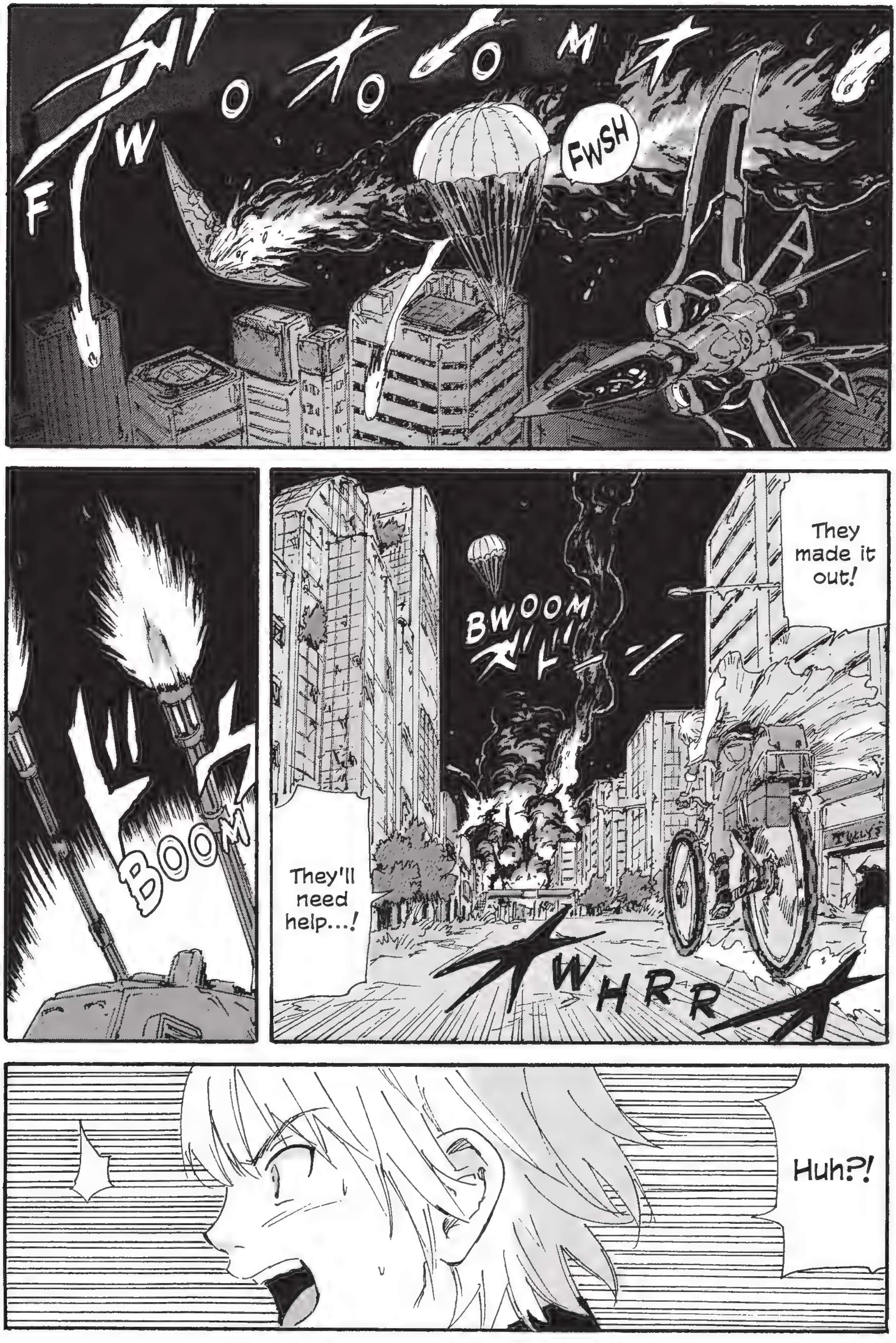

ドーン
BOOM
ダダダ
RA TA TA
!
ドドド
RA TA TA
ズドーン
BWOOM
ドドド
RA TA TA
It's from outside.
ドドド
RA TA TA
ドーン
BOOM
Somebody's busy up there.

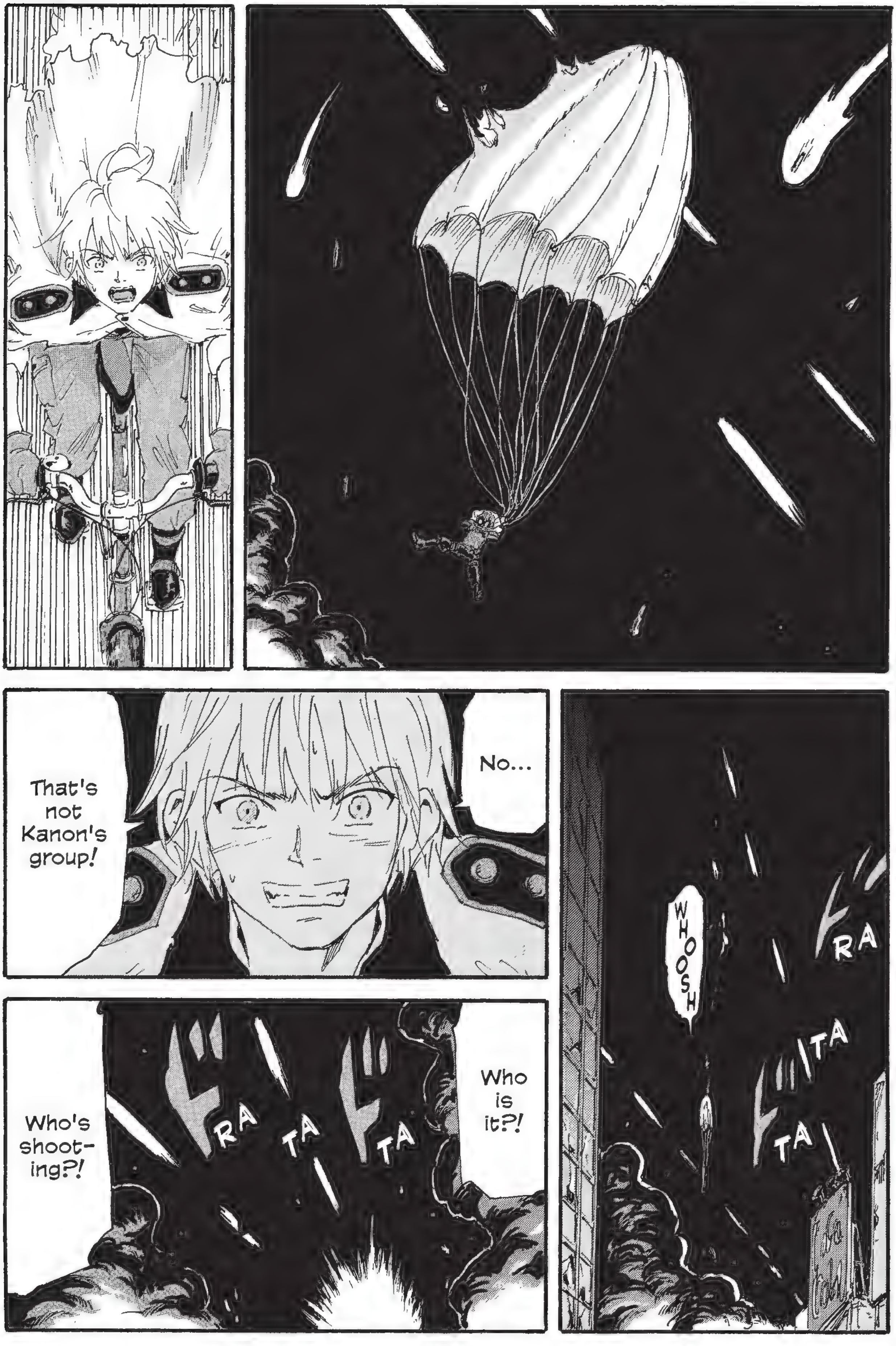

RATATA
BWOOM
FLASH
FLASH
RA TA TA
BOOM
One, two, three... they're the Black Wings.
Are they still bombing?!

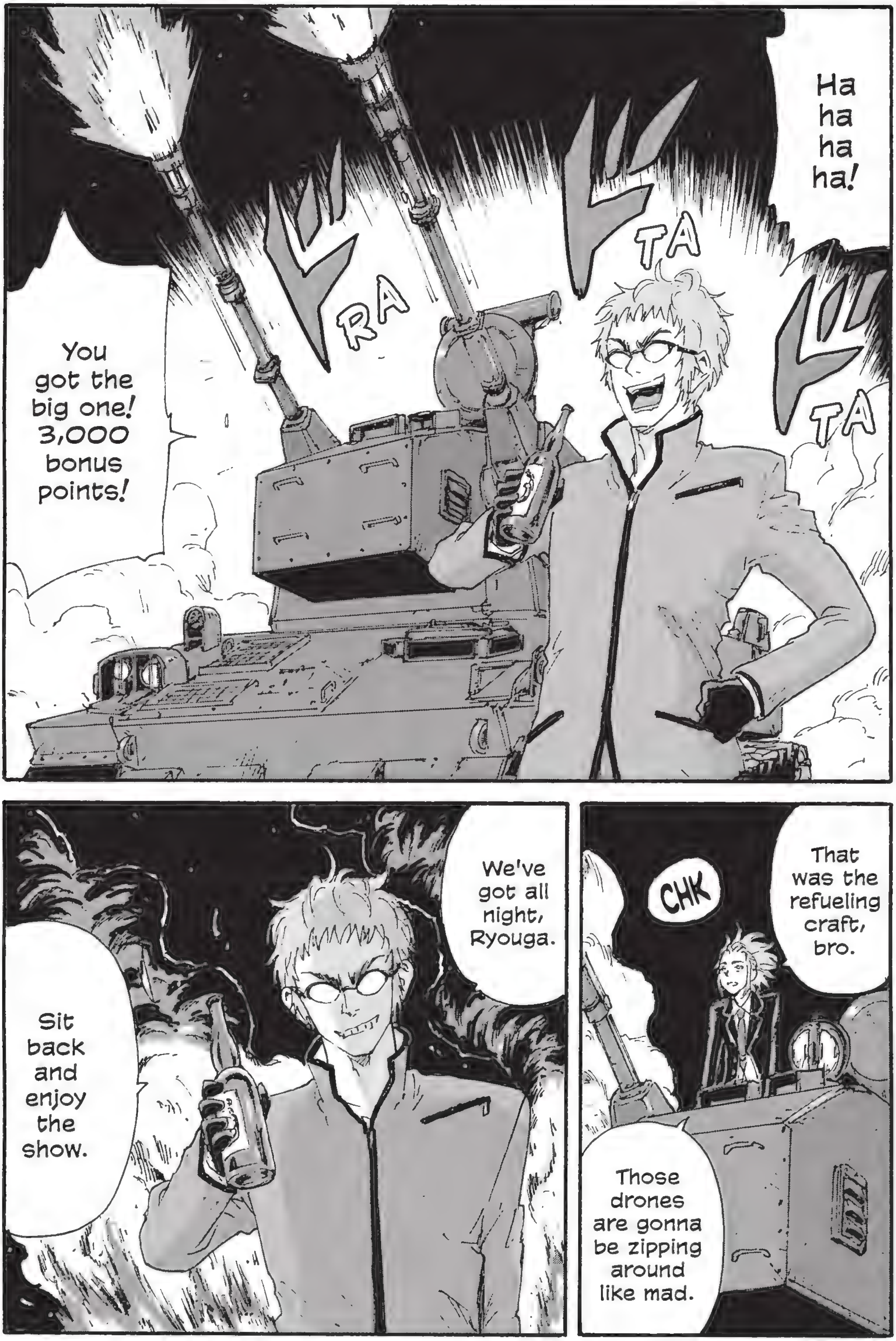

RA
TA
TA
TA
An anti-air cannon ...
Is it Kanon's group?!
...
!
KFC
屋
シブヤサイクル
Shibuya Cycle
WHRRRR

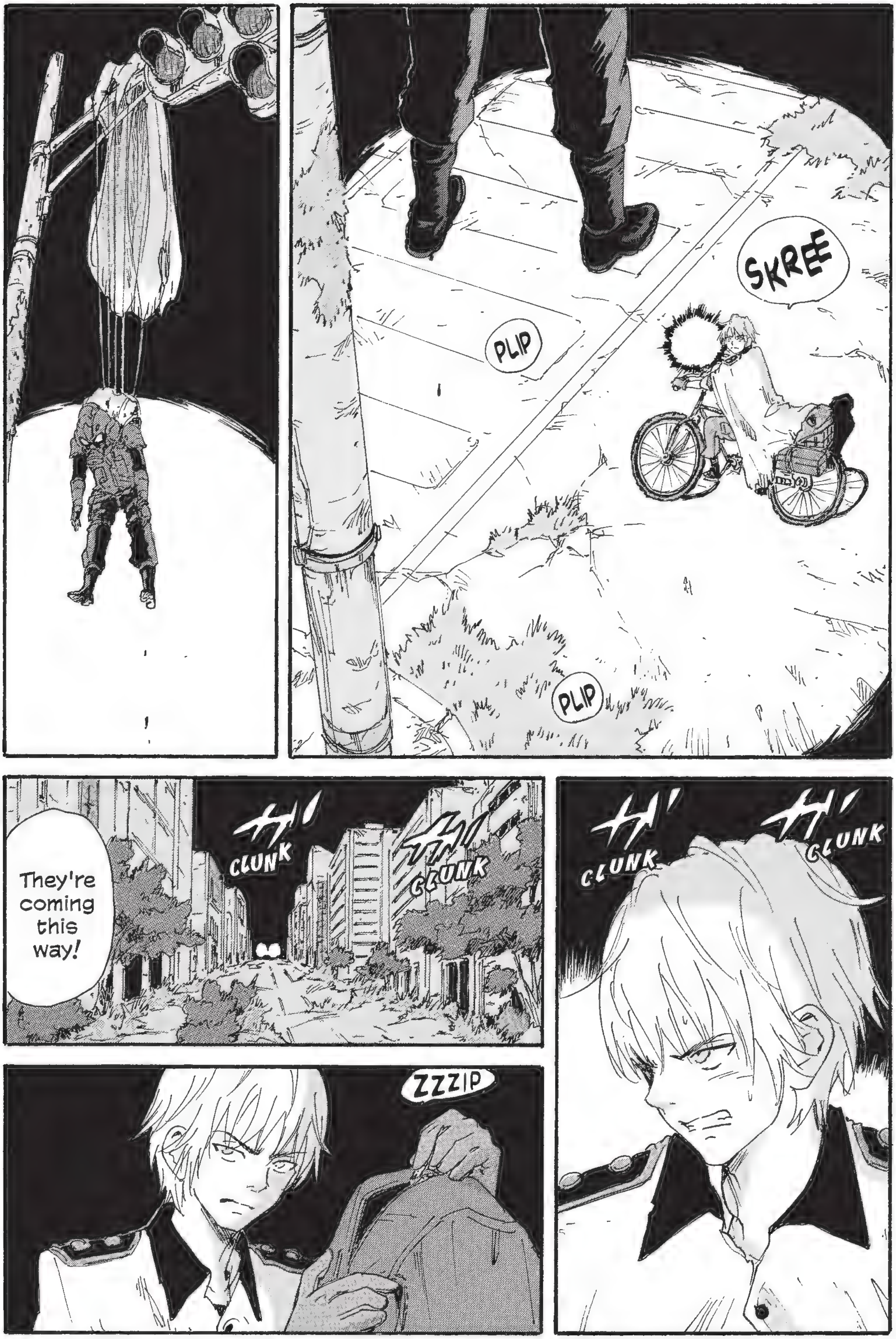

!
What?!
ゴォーン
RRM
ゴォーン
RRM
There's another large aircraft—
ゴォーン
RRMM
ゴォーン
RRMM

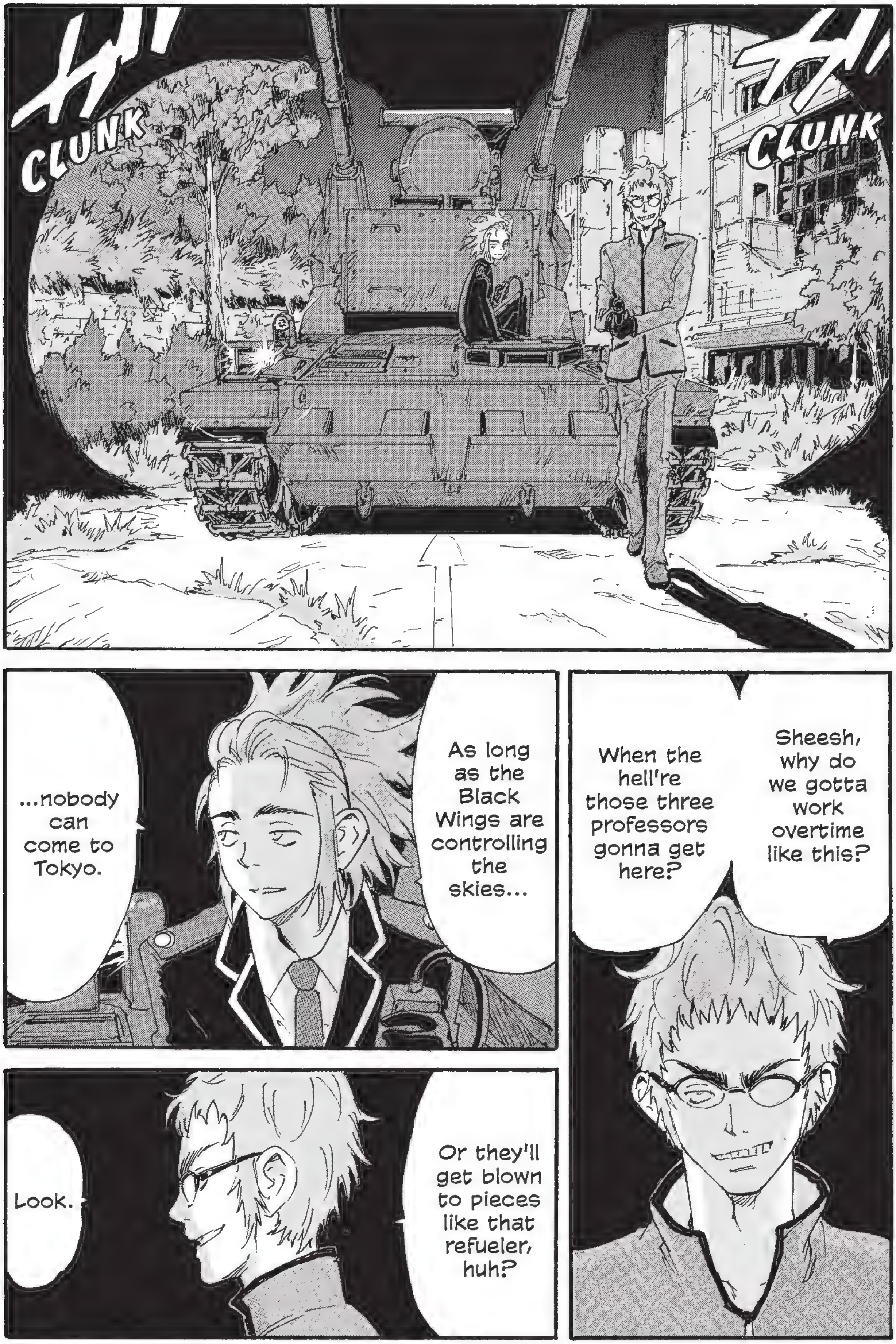

WHRR
An aerial refueling craft!
Is it manned ?!
TA
TA
RA
KA
BOOOM!
!!

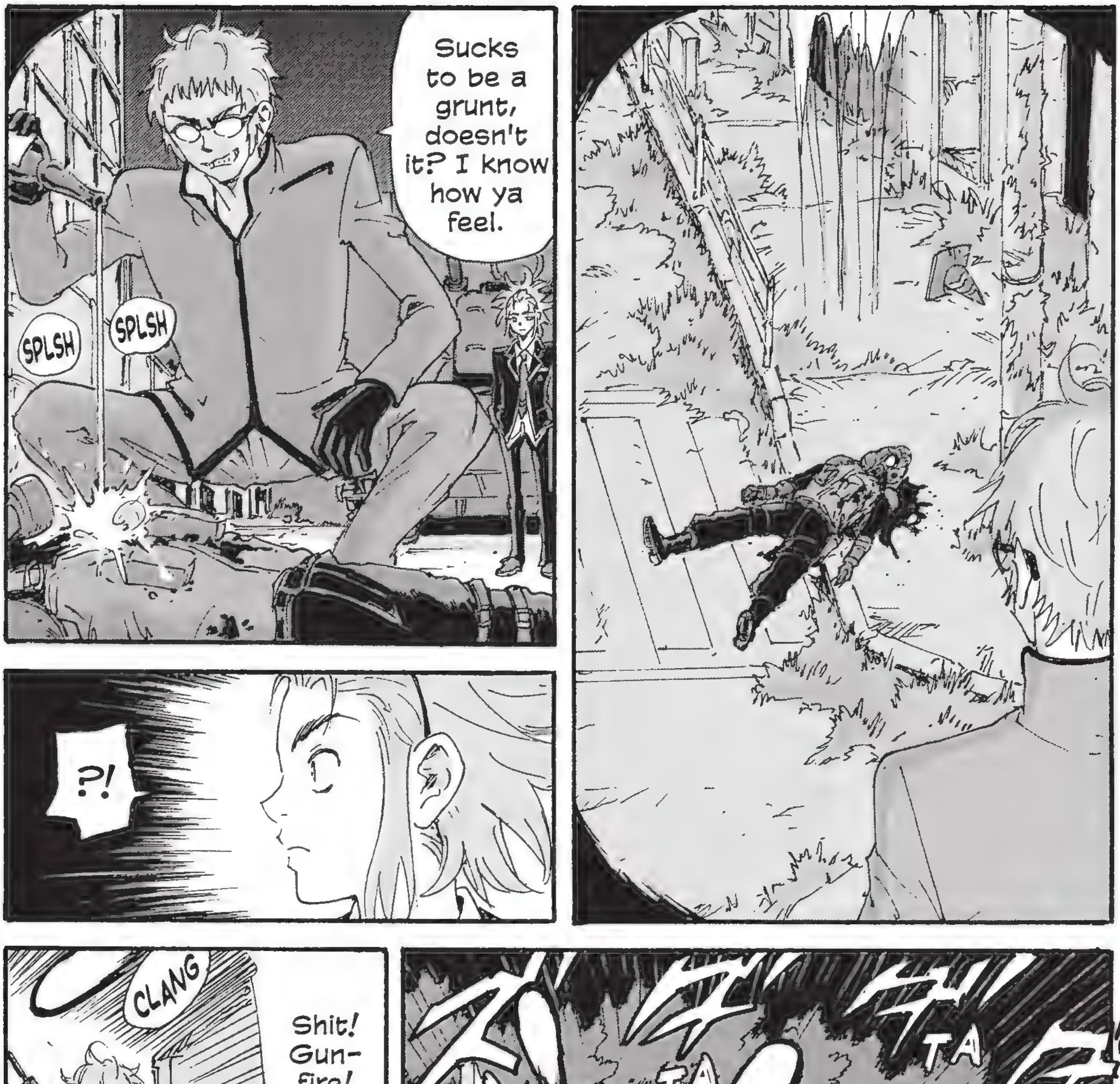

FWOOOM
FWSH
BOOM
BWOOM
They made it out!
They'll need help...!
WHRR
Huh?!

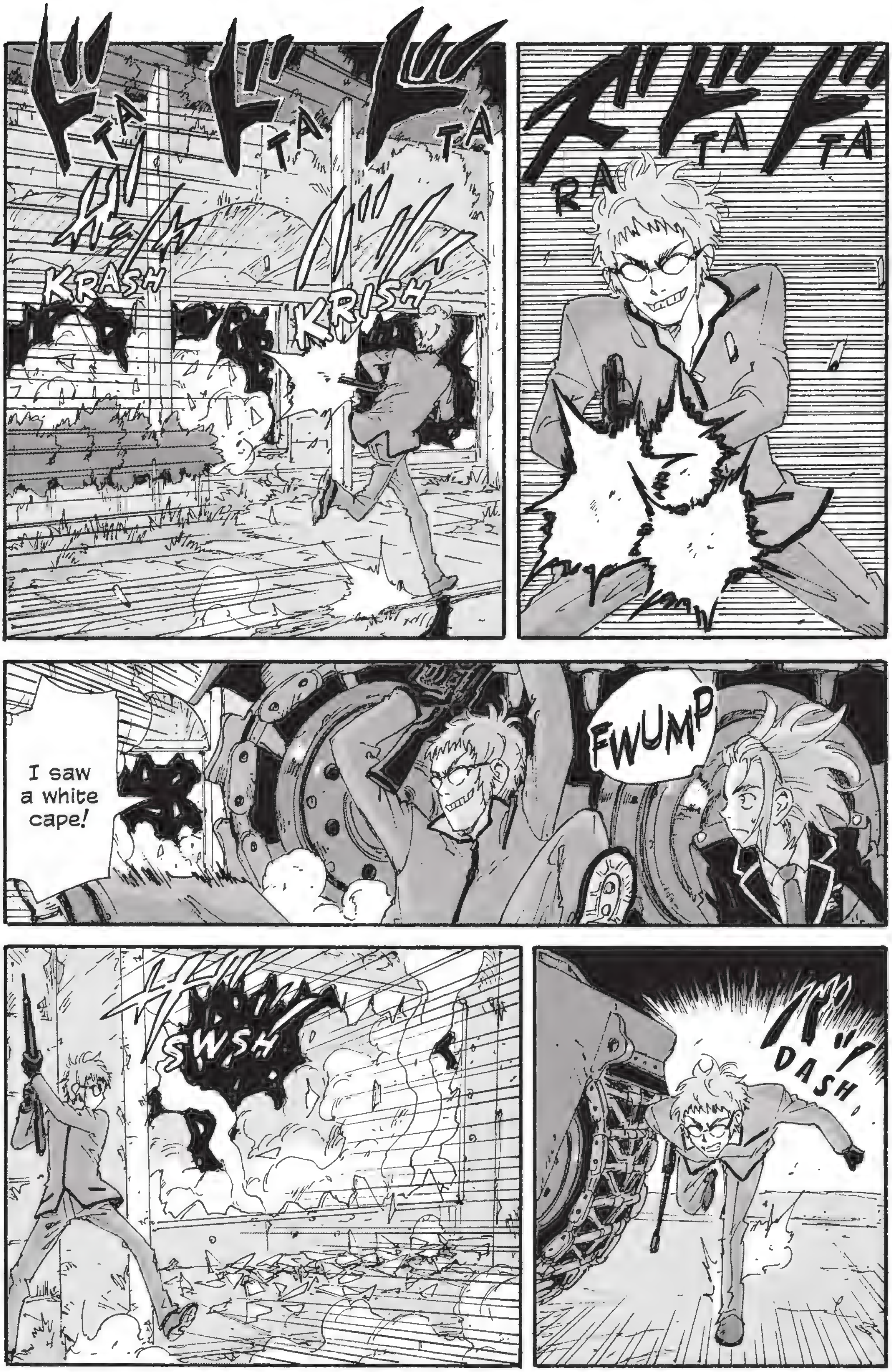

WHOOSH
RA
TA
TA
No...
That's not Kanon's group!
Who is it?!
Who's shooting?!
RA
TA
TA

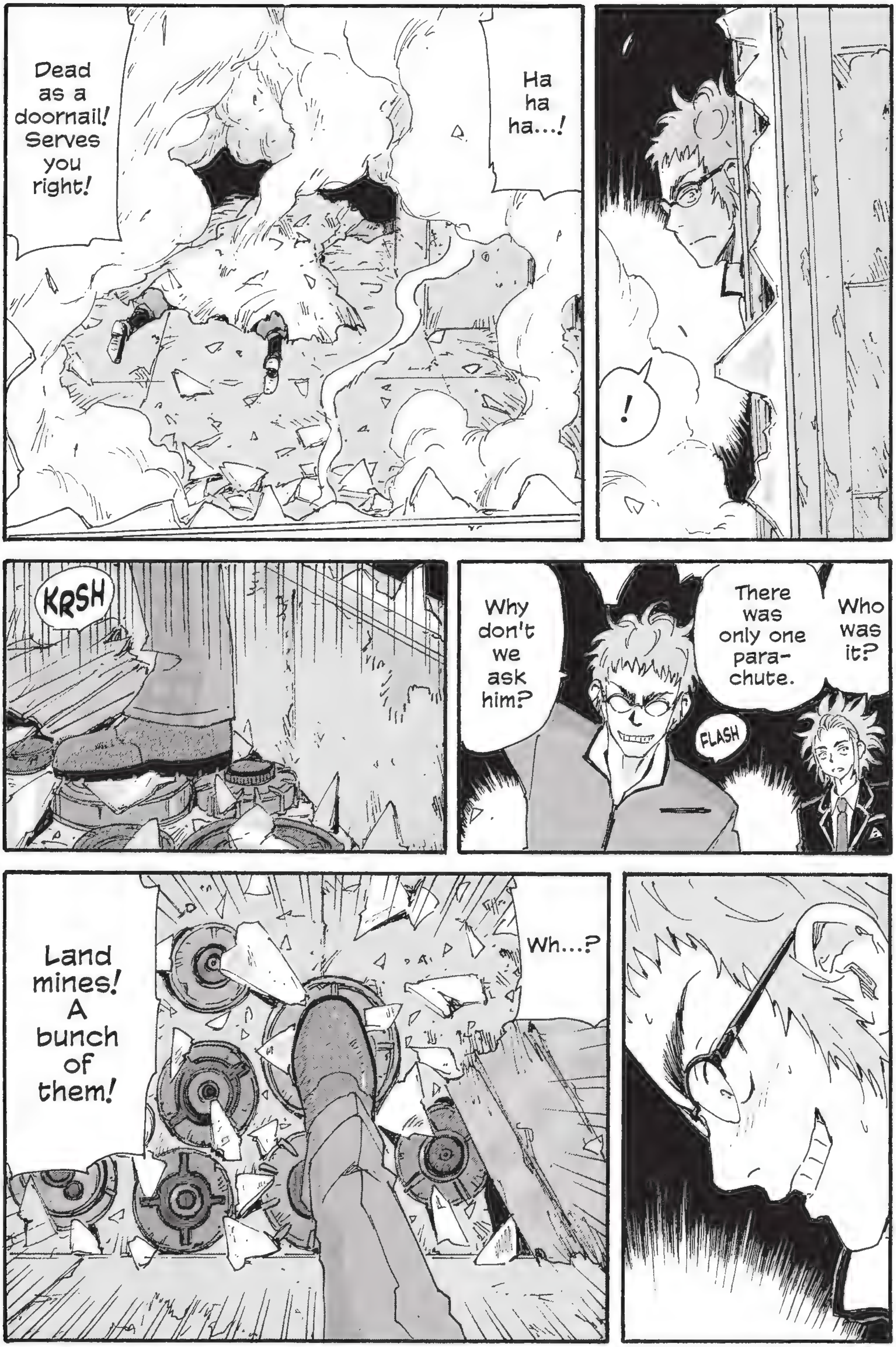

Ha ha ha ha!
TA
TA
RA
You got the big one! 3,000 bonus points!
That was the refueling craft, bro.
CHK
Those drones are gonna be zipping around like mad.
We've got all night, Ryouga.
Sit back and enjoy the show.

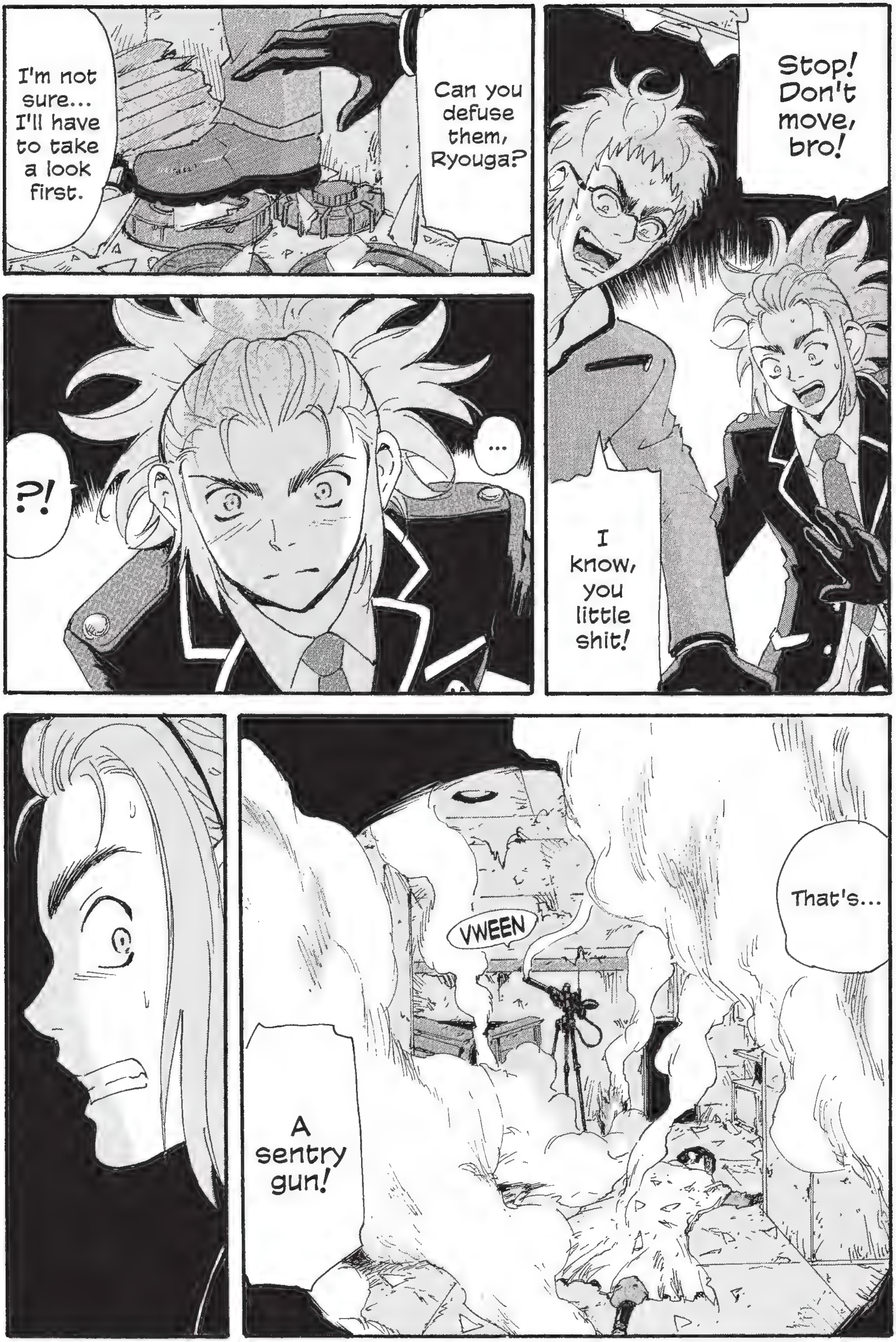

SKREE
PLIP
PLIP
ガ CLUNK
ガ CLUNK
ガ CLUNK
ガ CLUNK
They're coming this way!
ZZZIP

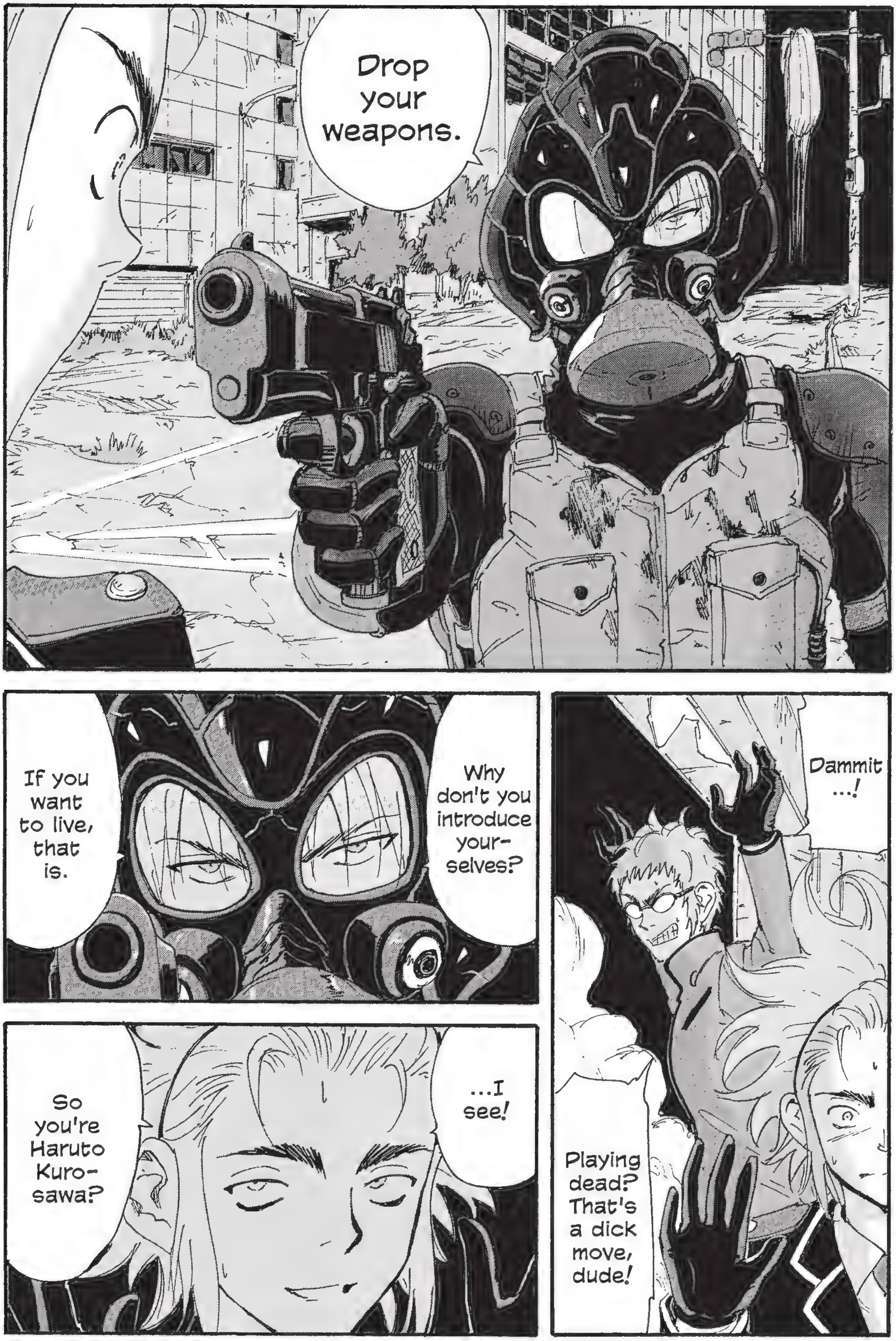

CLUNK
CLUNK
Sheesh, why do we gotta work overtime like this?
When the hell're those three professors gonna get here?
As long as the Black Wings are controlling the skies...
...nobody can come to Tokyo.
Or they'll get blown to pieces like that refueler, huh?
Look.

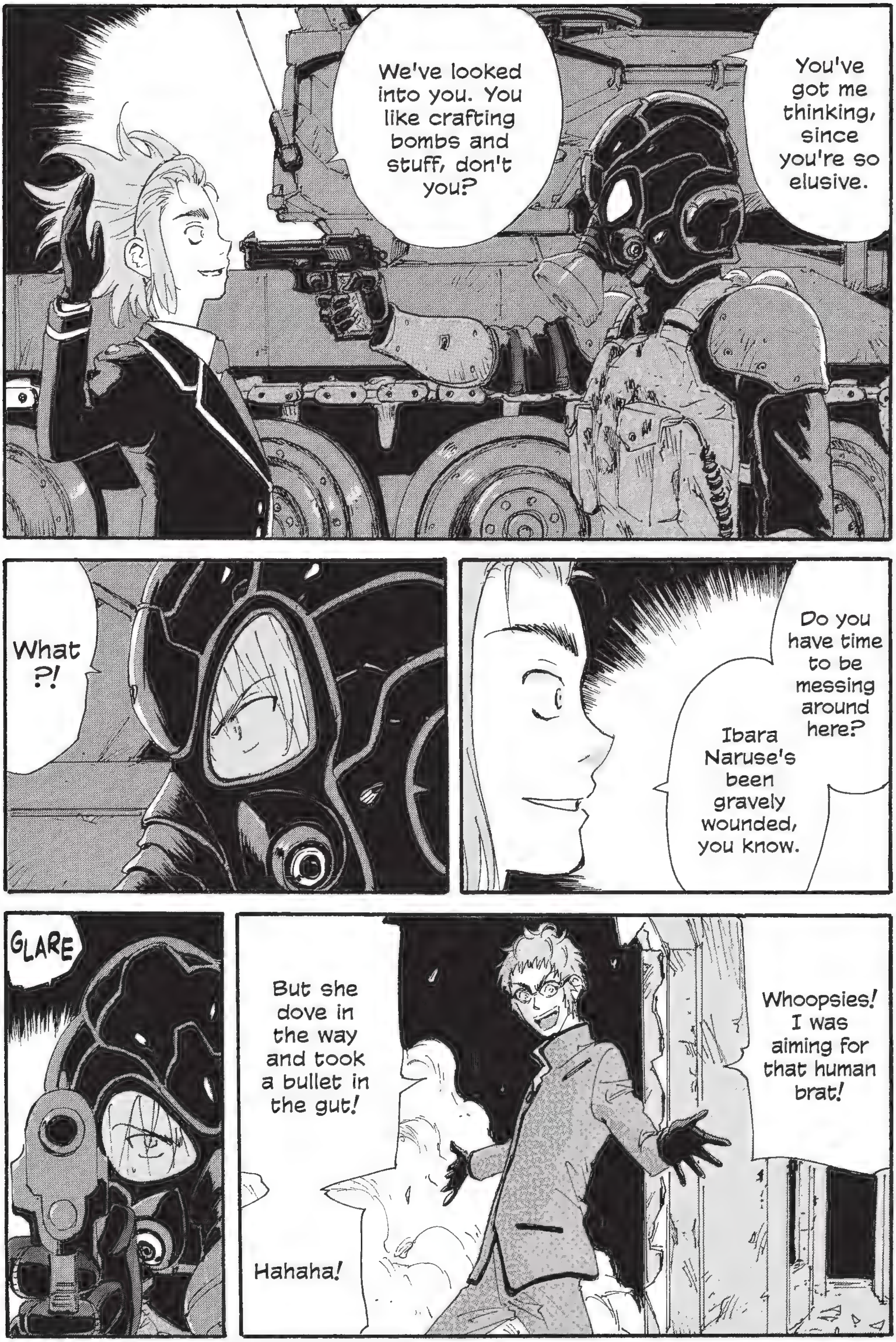

Sucks to be a grunt, doesn't it? I know how ya feel.
SPLSH
SPLSH
?!
ズダダダダ!
RA
TA
TA
TA
CLANG
CLINK
CLANG
Shit! Gun-fire!
CLINK
カァ
CLANG
It's coming from that building, bro!

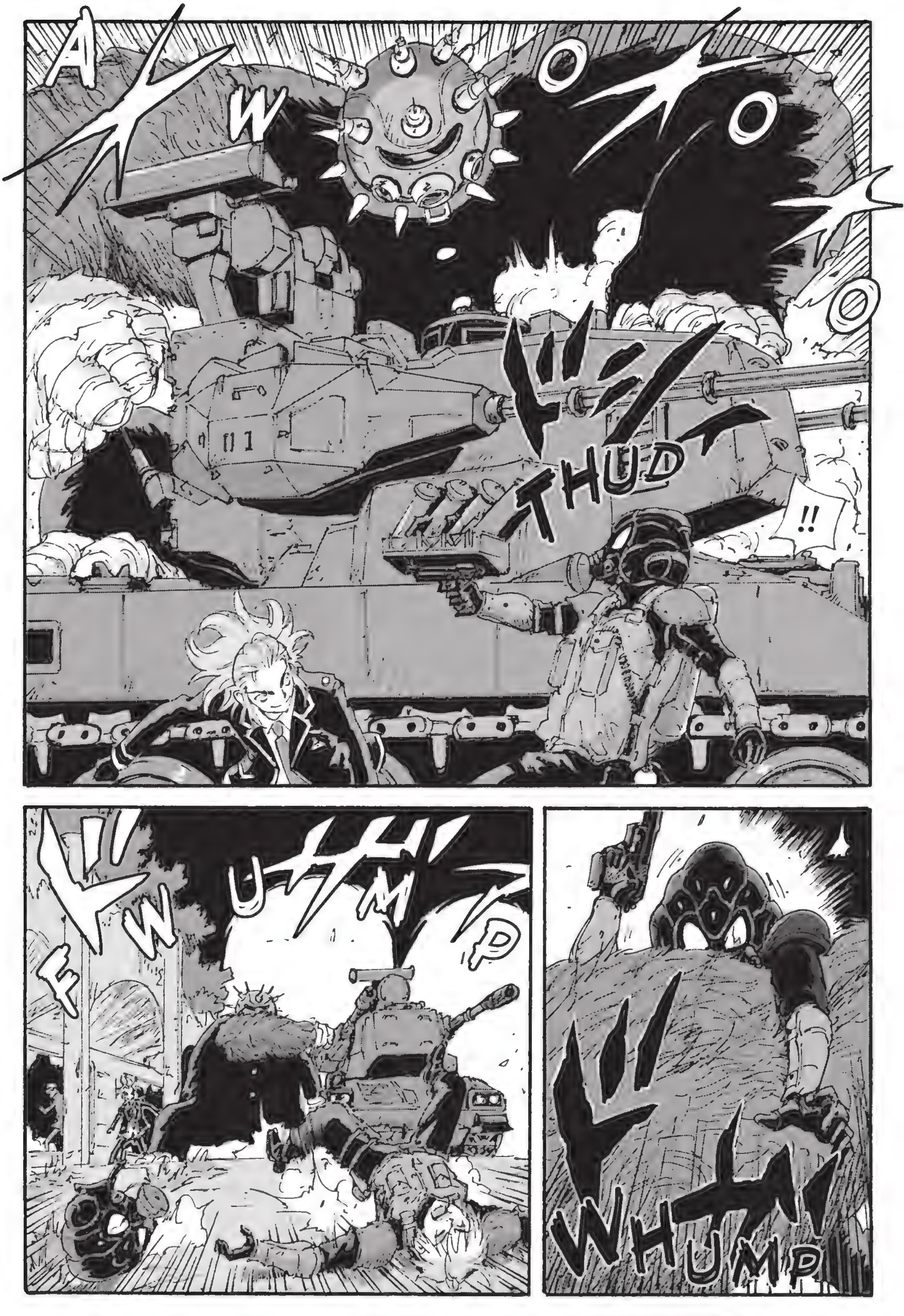

RA TA TA TA
TA TA TA
KRASH
KRISH
FWUMP
I saw a white cape!
DASH
SWSH

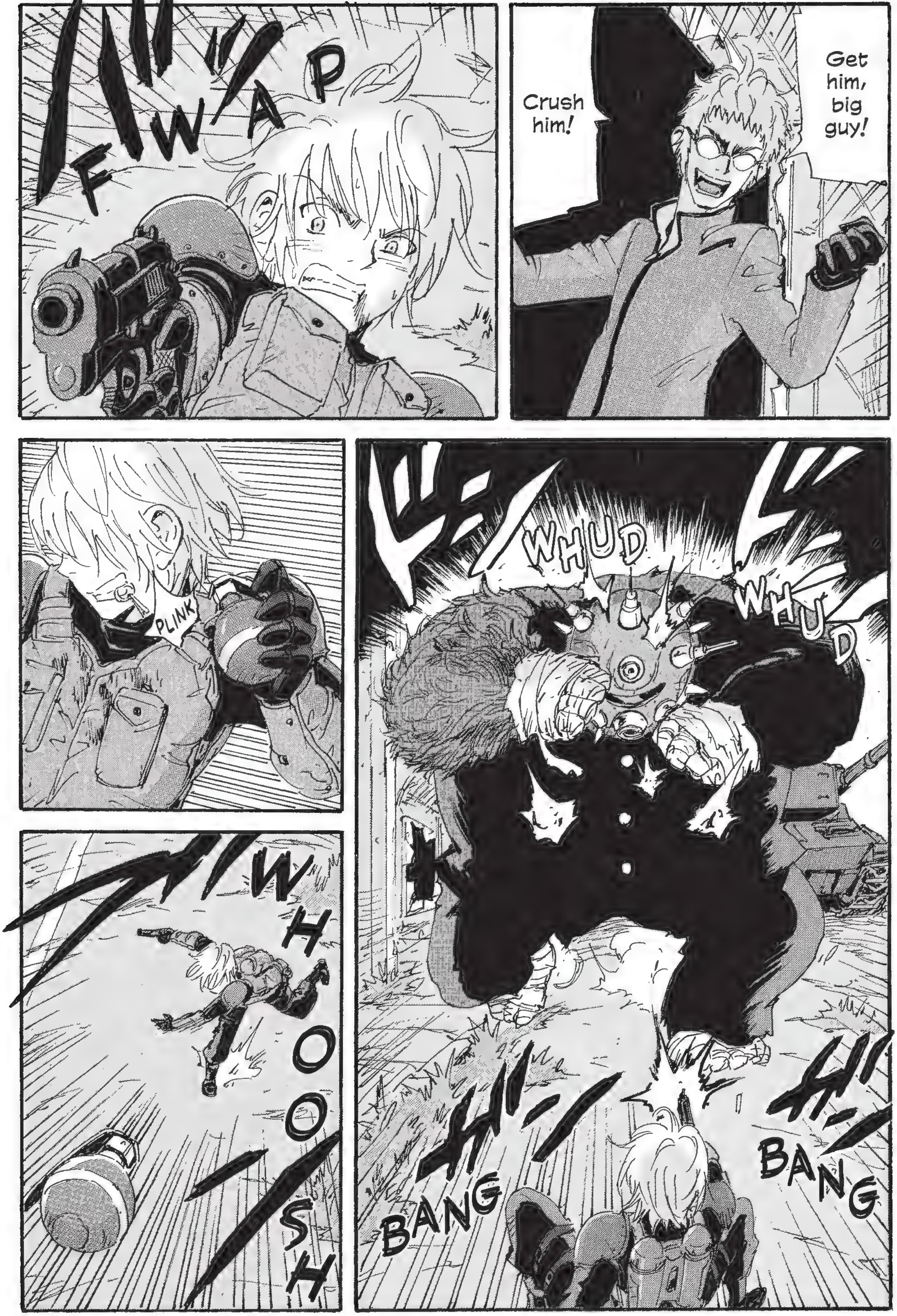

!
Ha ha ha...!
Dead as a doornail! Serves you right!
Who was it?
There was only one parachute.
FLASH
Why don't we ask him?
KRSH
Wh...?
Land mines! A bunch of them!

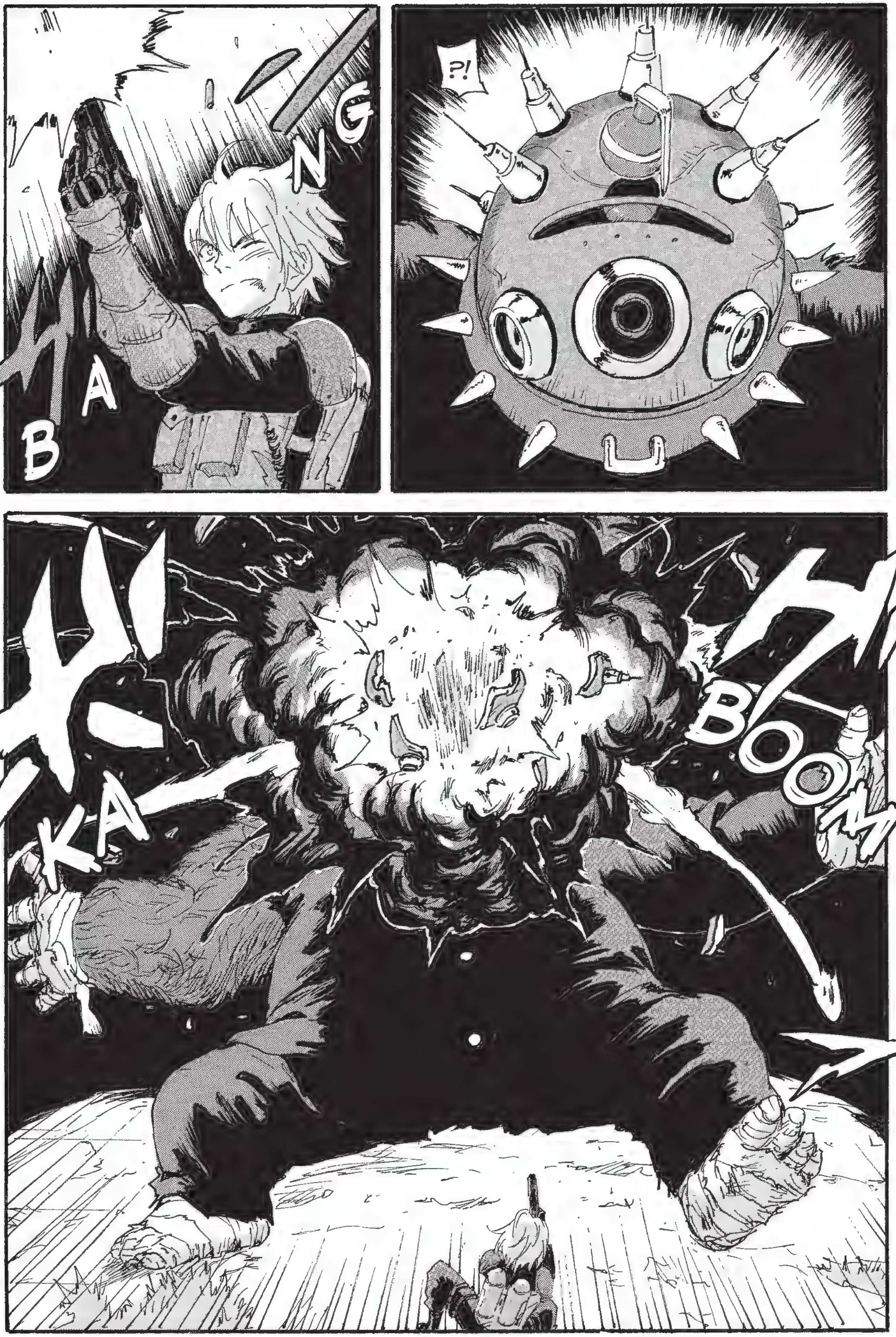

Can you defuse them, Ryouga?
I'm not sure... I'll have to take a look first.
...
?!
Stop! Don't move, bro!
I know, you little shit!
That's...
VWEEN
A sentry gun!

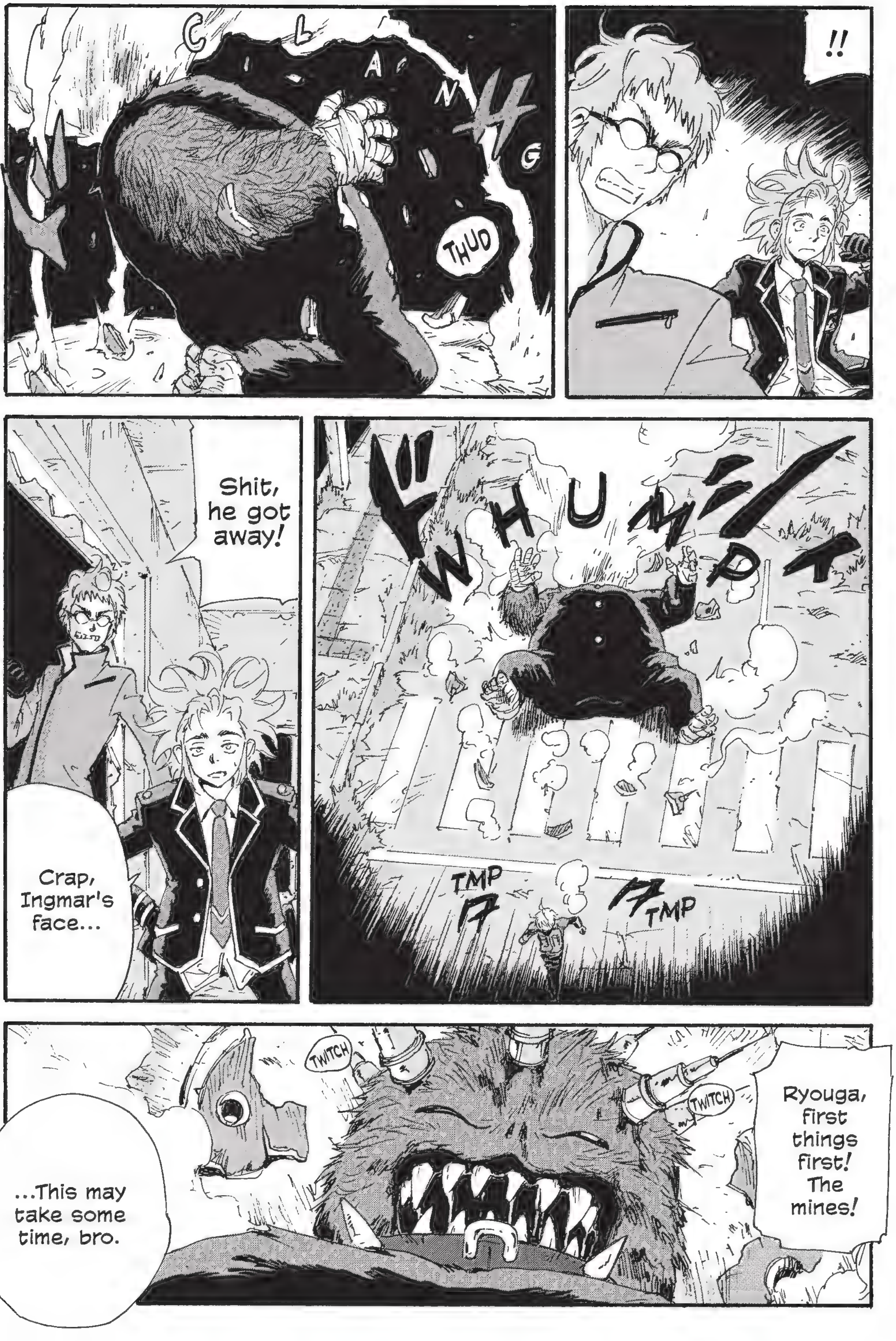

Drop your weapons.
Dammit …!
Playing dead? That's a dick move, dude!
Why don't you introduce yourselves?
If you want to live, that is.
…I see!
So you're Haruto Kurosawa?

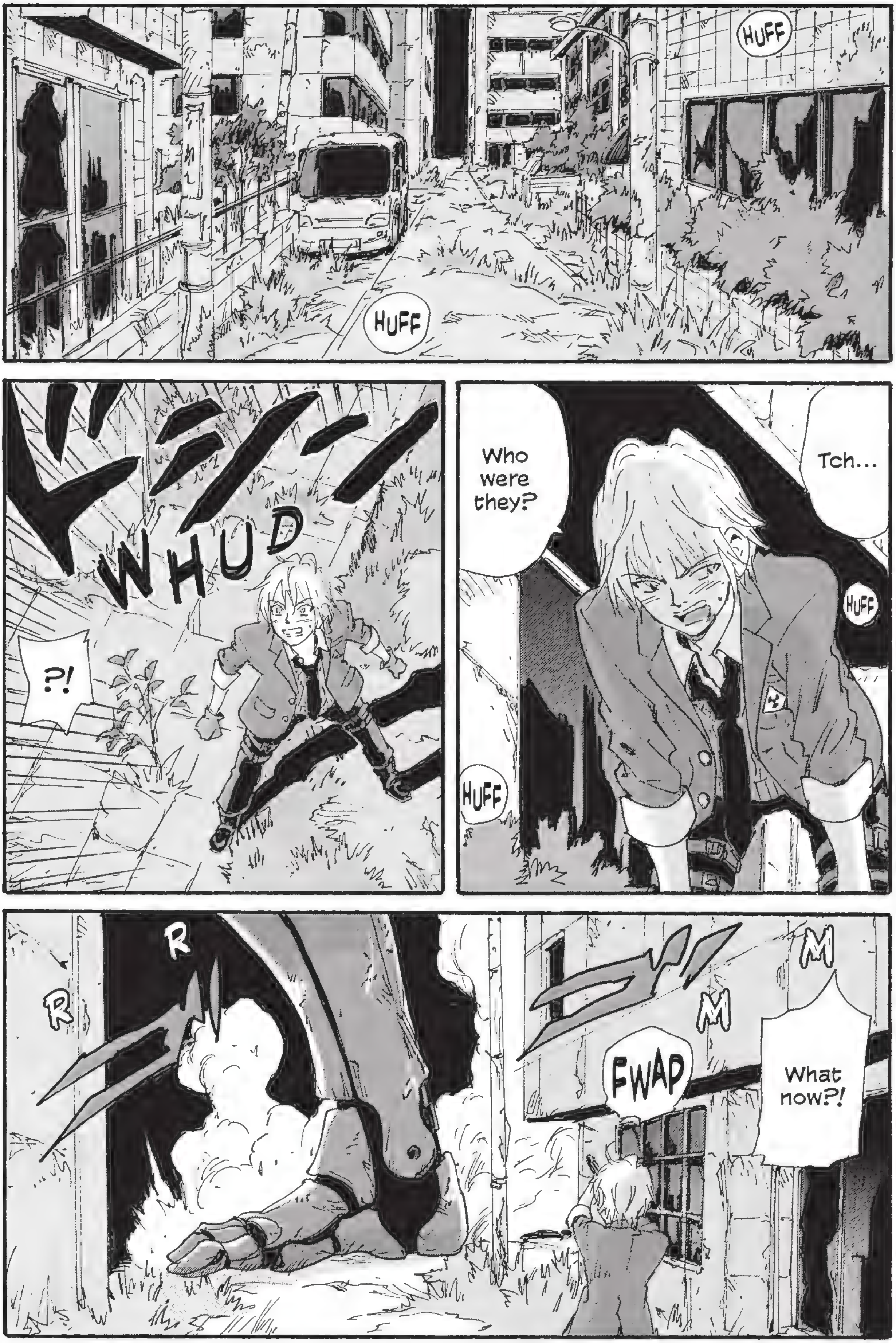

You've got me thinking, since you're so elusive.
We've looked into you. You like crafting bombs and stuff, don't you?
Do you have time to be messing around here?
Ibara Naruse's been gravely wounded, you know.
What?!
Whoopsies! I was aiming for that human brat!
But she dove in the way and took a bullet in the gut!
Hahaha!
GLARE

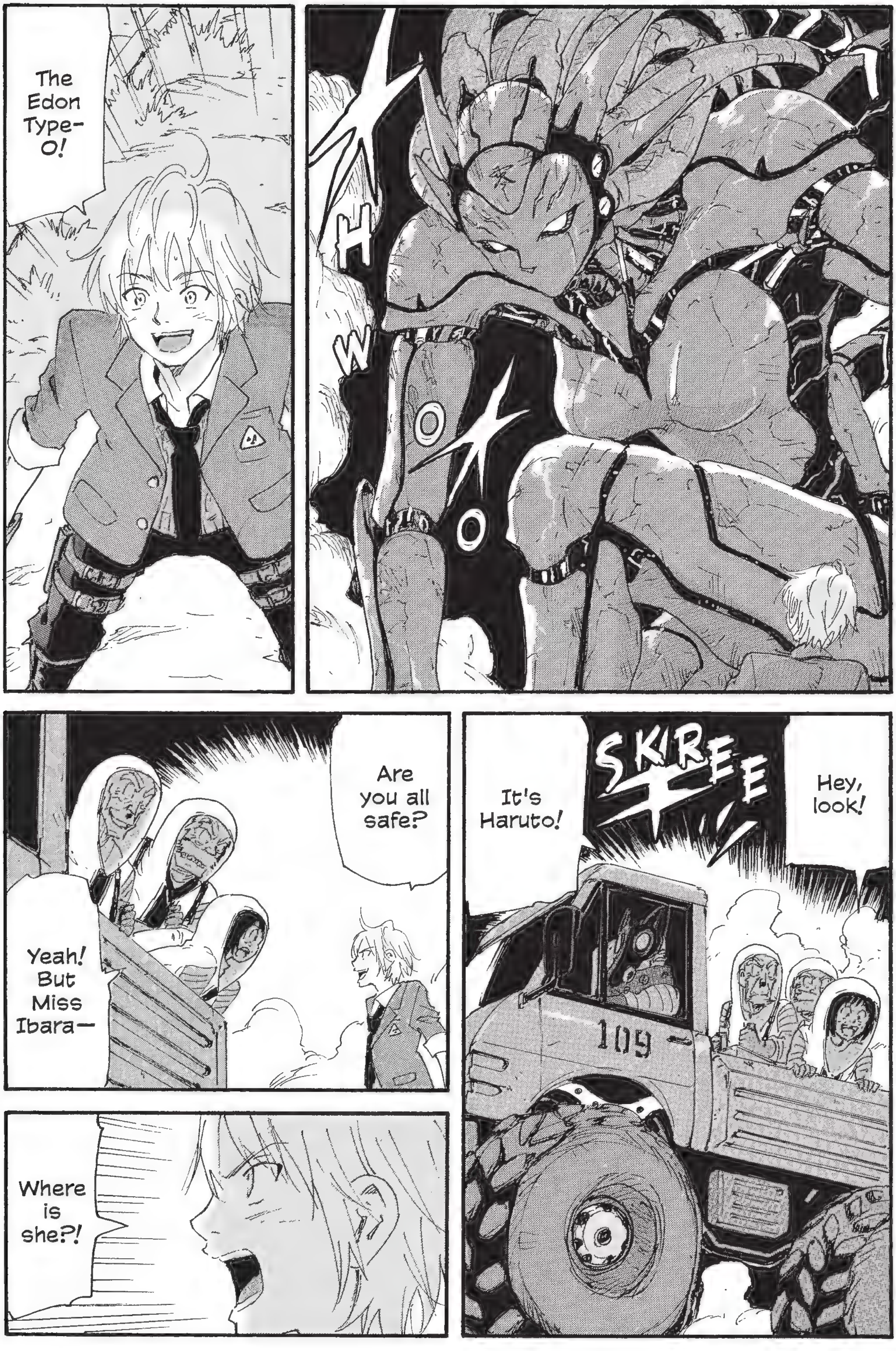

AWOOOOO
ドン
THUD
!!
WHUMP
FWUMP

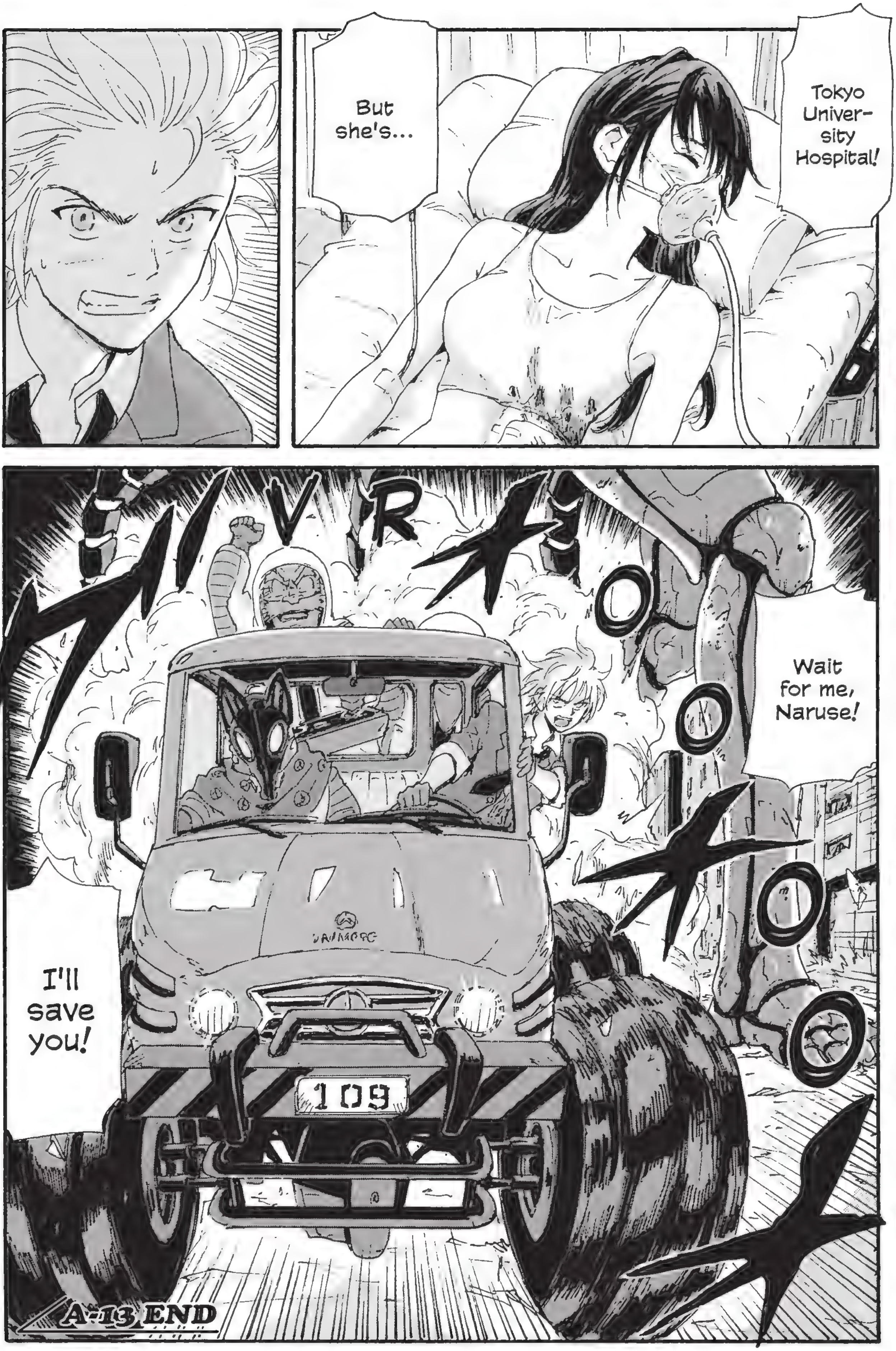

Get him, big guy!
Crush him!
FWAP
WHUD
WHUD
BANG
BANG
PLINK
WHOOSH


BANG
?!
KA
BOOM

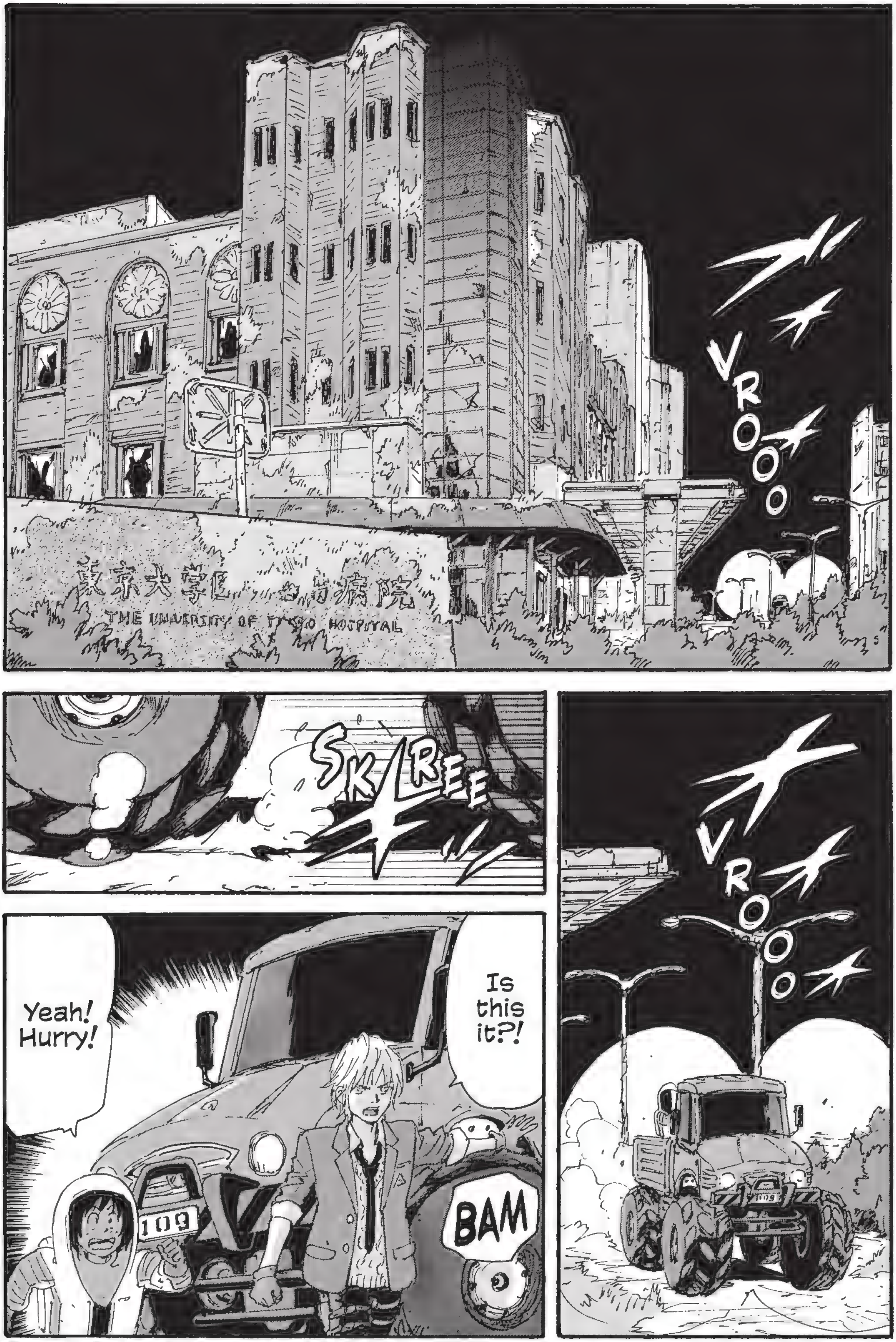

!!
CLANG
THUD
WHUMP
TMP
TMP
Shit, he got away!
Crap, Ingmar's face...
Ryouga, first things first! The mines!
TWITCH
TWITCH
...This may take some time, bro.

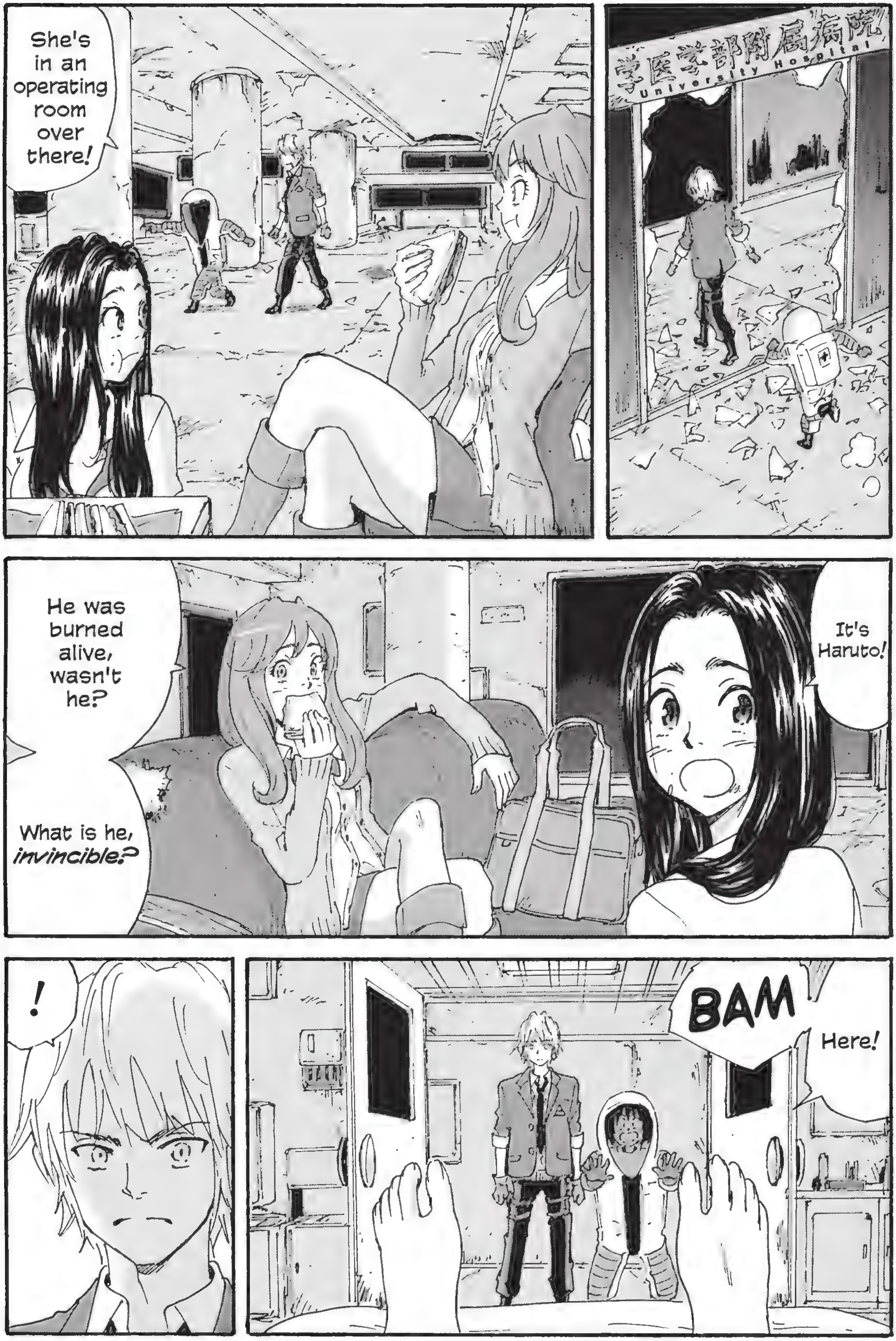

HUFF
HUFF
Tch...
HUFF
Who were they?
HUFF
WHUD
?!
M
M
What now?!
FWAP
R
R

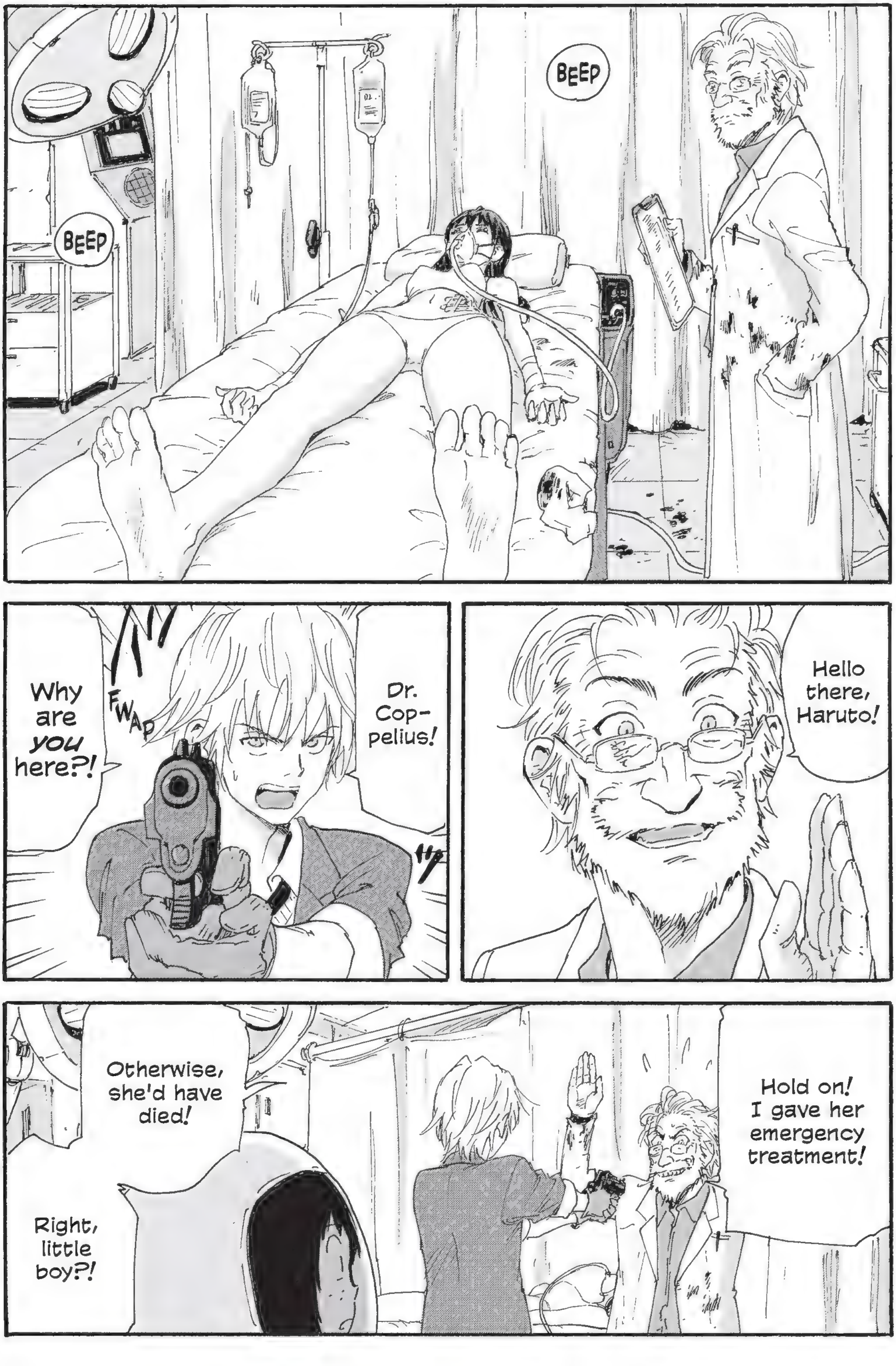

HWOOO
The Edon Type-O!
Hey, look!
SKREEE
It's Haruto!
109
Are you all safe?
Yeah! But Miss Ibara—
Where is she?!

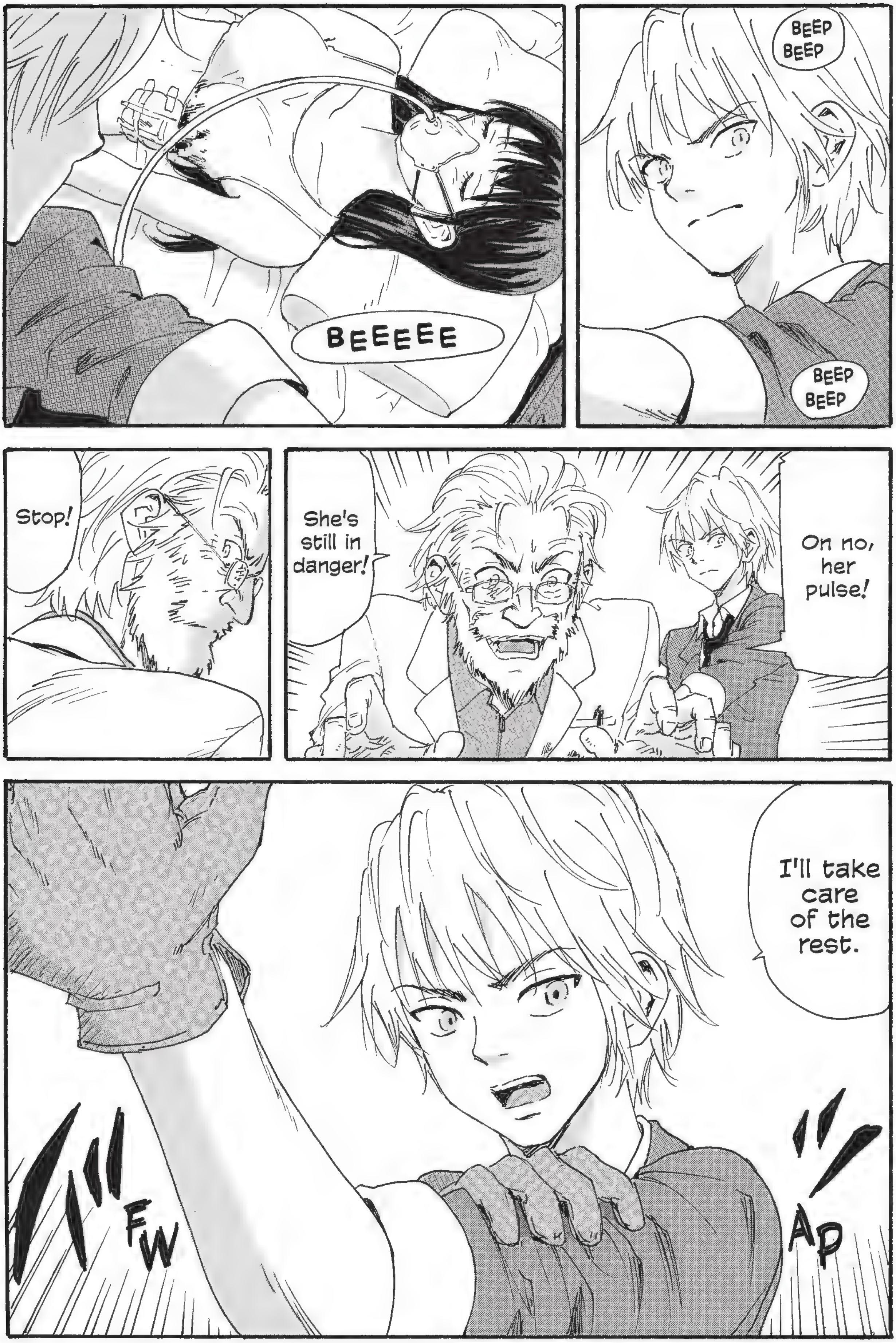

Tokyo University-sity Hospital!
But she's...
Wait for me, Naruse!
I'll save you!
A-13 END

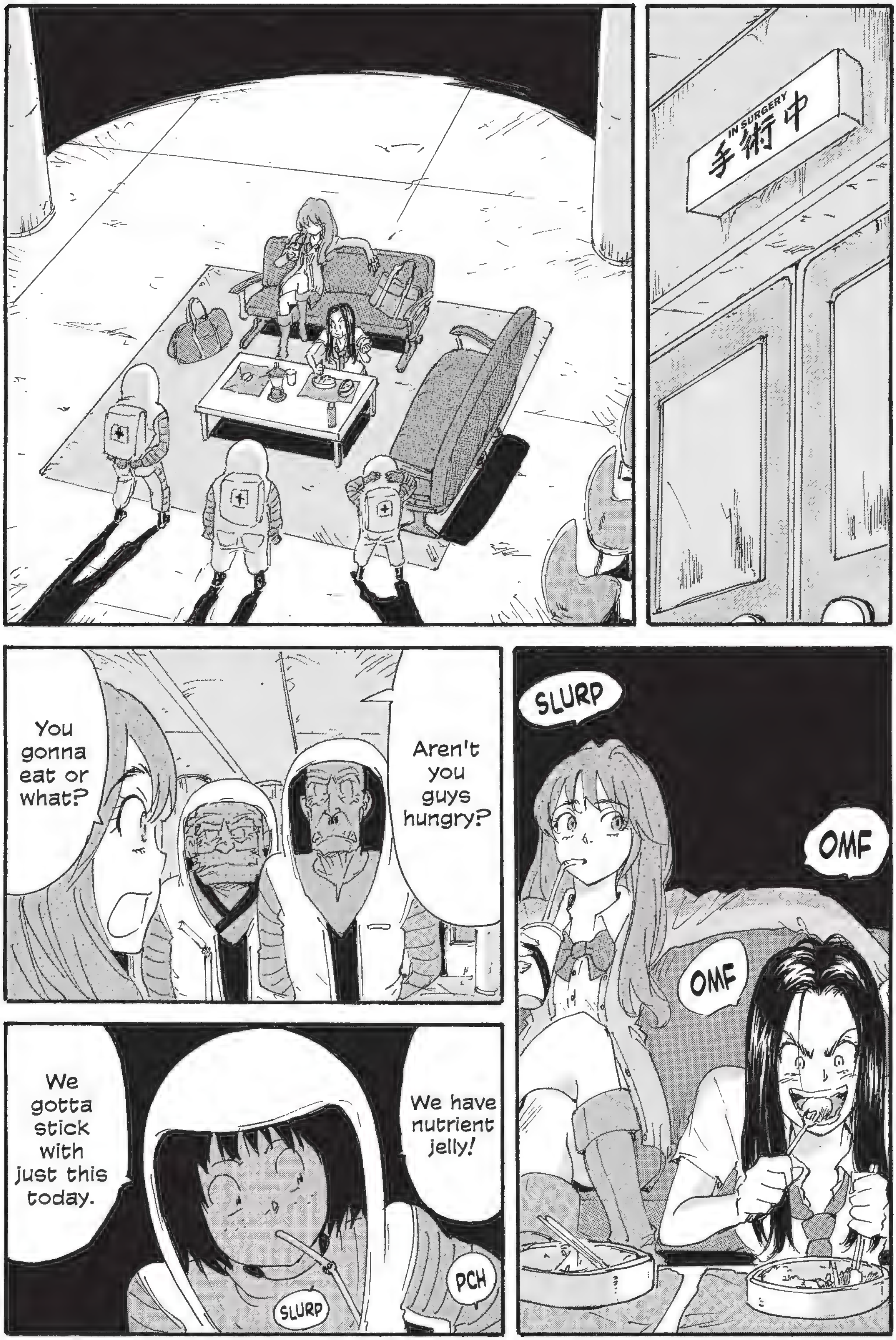
Act.14【 To a World of Darkness 】

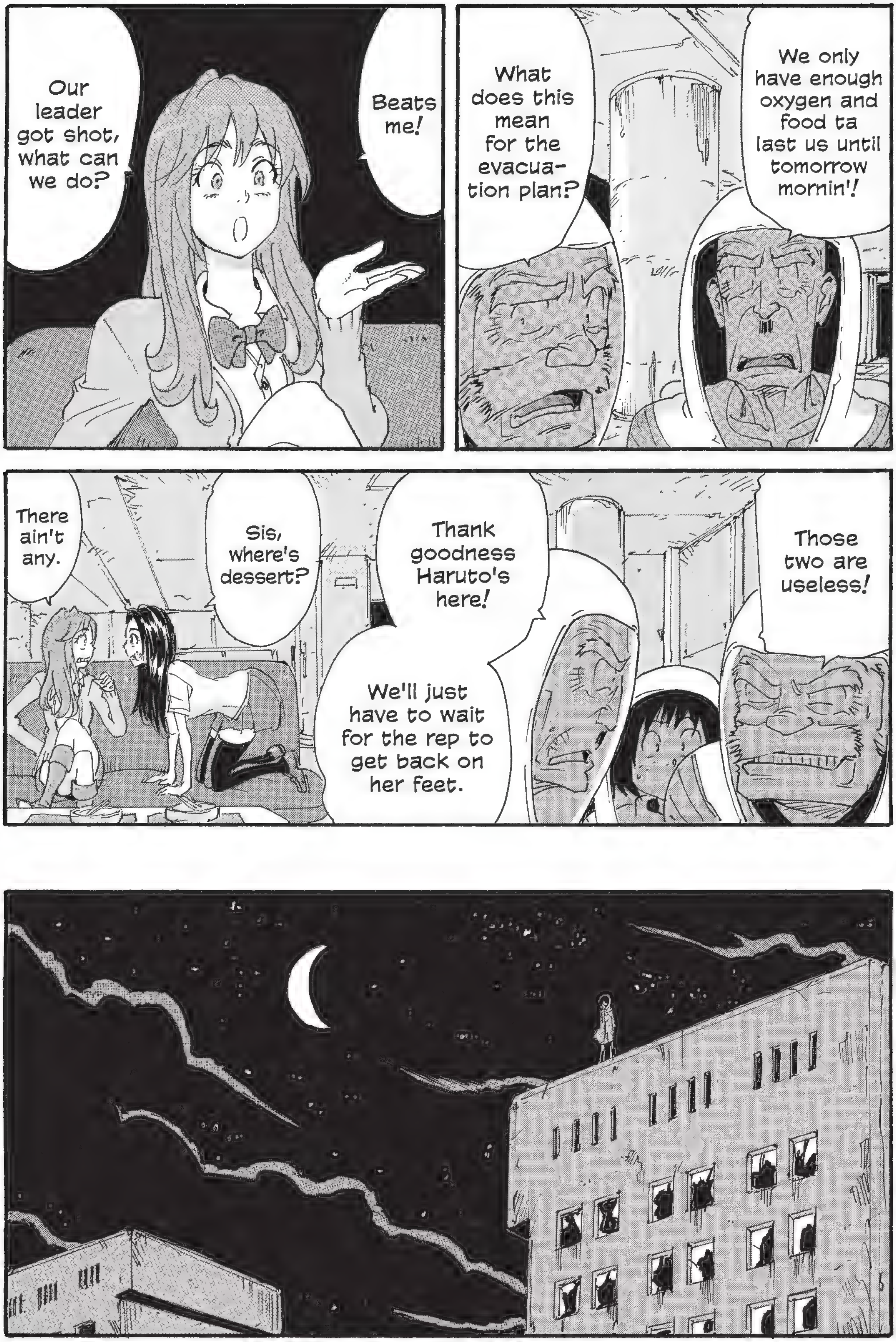

VROOOO
東京大学 病院
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO HOSPITAL
VROOOO
SKREE
Is this it?!
BAM
109
Yeah! Hurry!

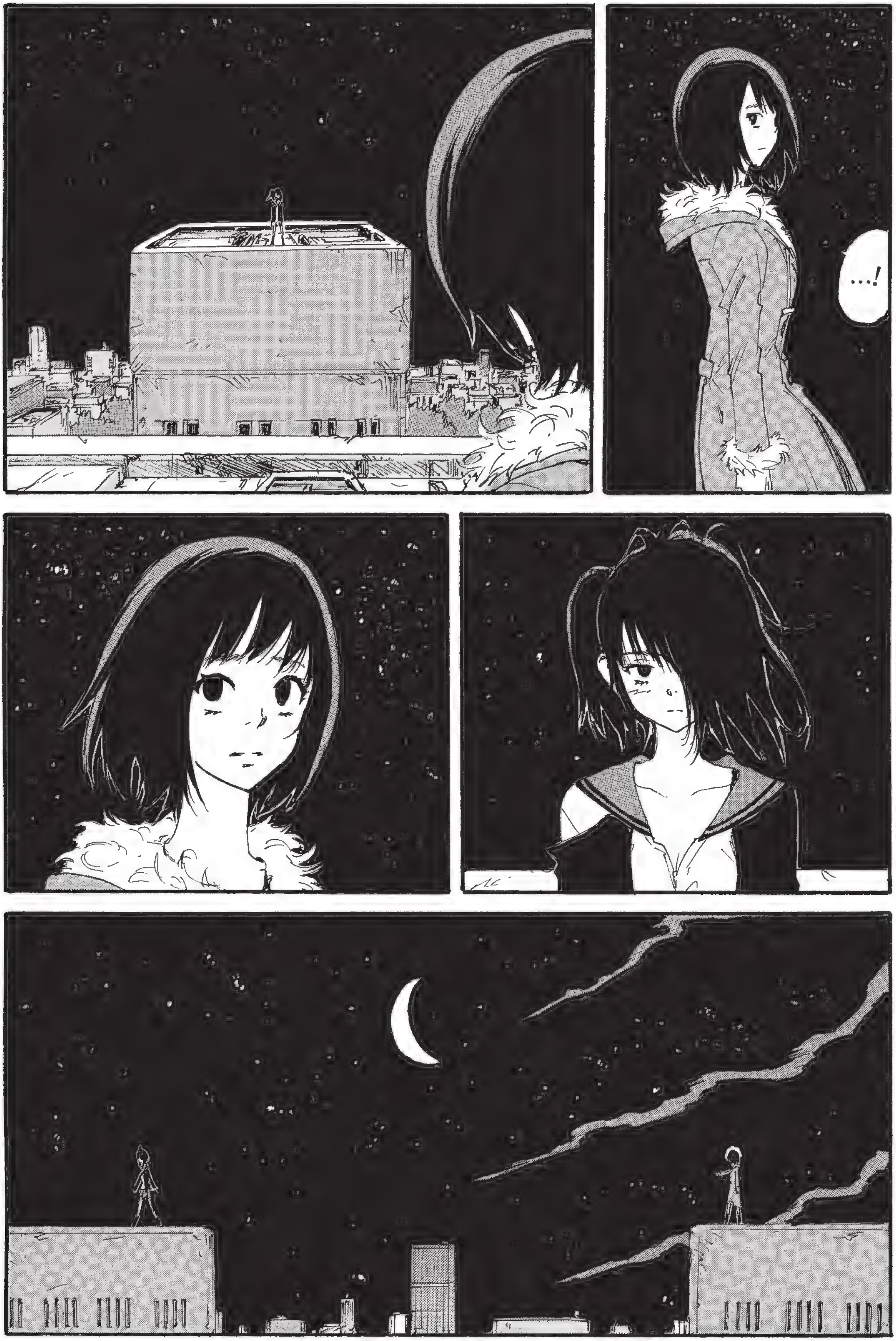

学医学部附属病院
University Hospital
She's in an operating room over there!
It's Haruto!
He was burned alive, wasn't he?
What is he, *invincible?*
BAM
Here!
!

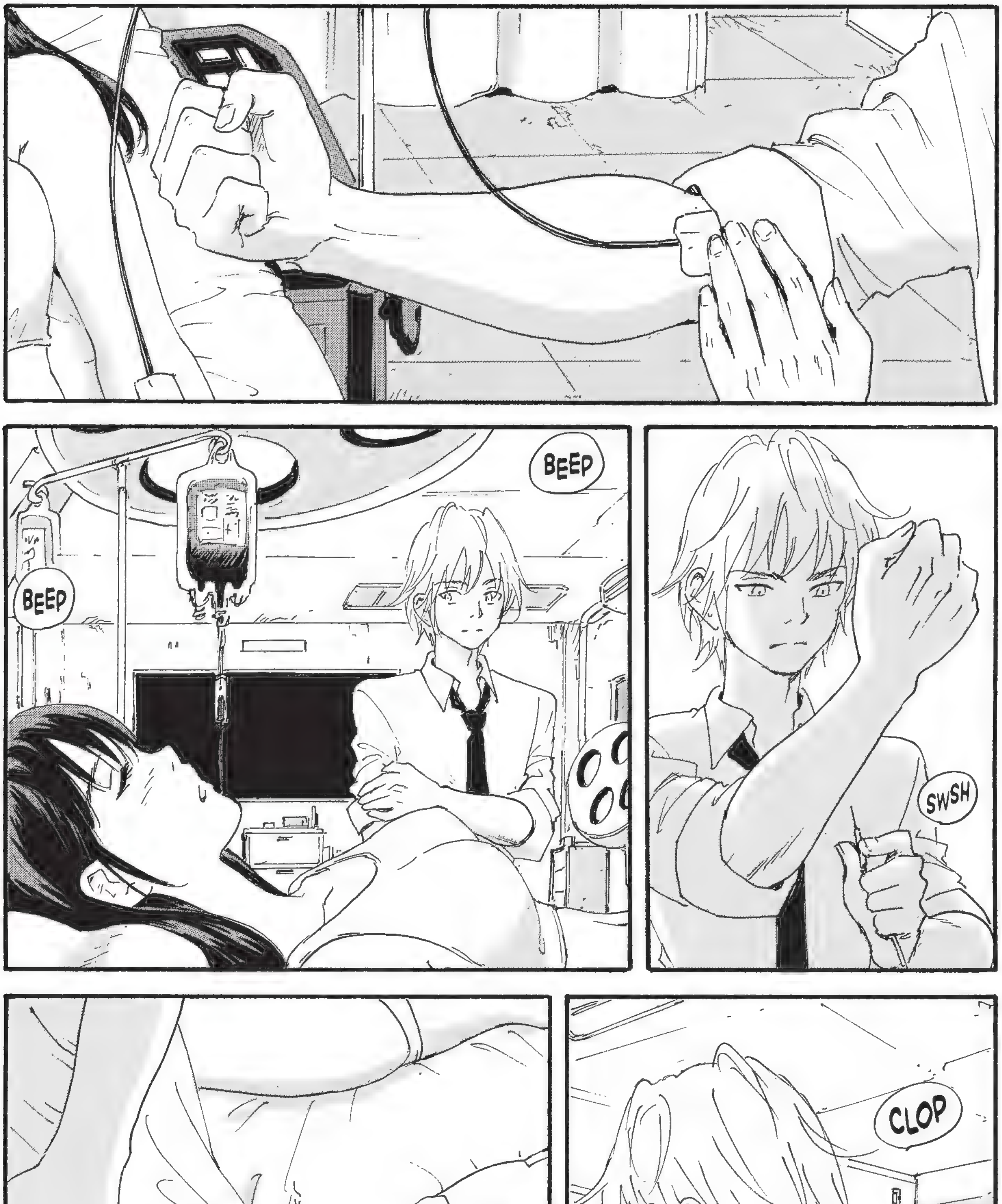

BEEP
BEEP
Hello there, Haruto!
Dr. Coppelius!
FWAP
Why are *you* here?!
Hold on! I gave her emergency treatment!
Otherwise, she'd have died!
Right, little boy?!

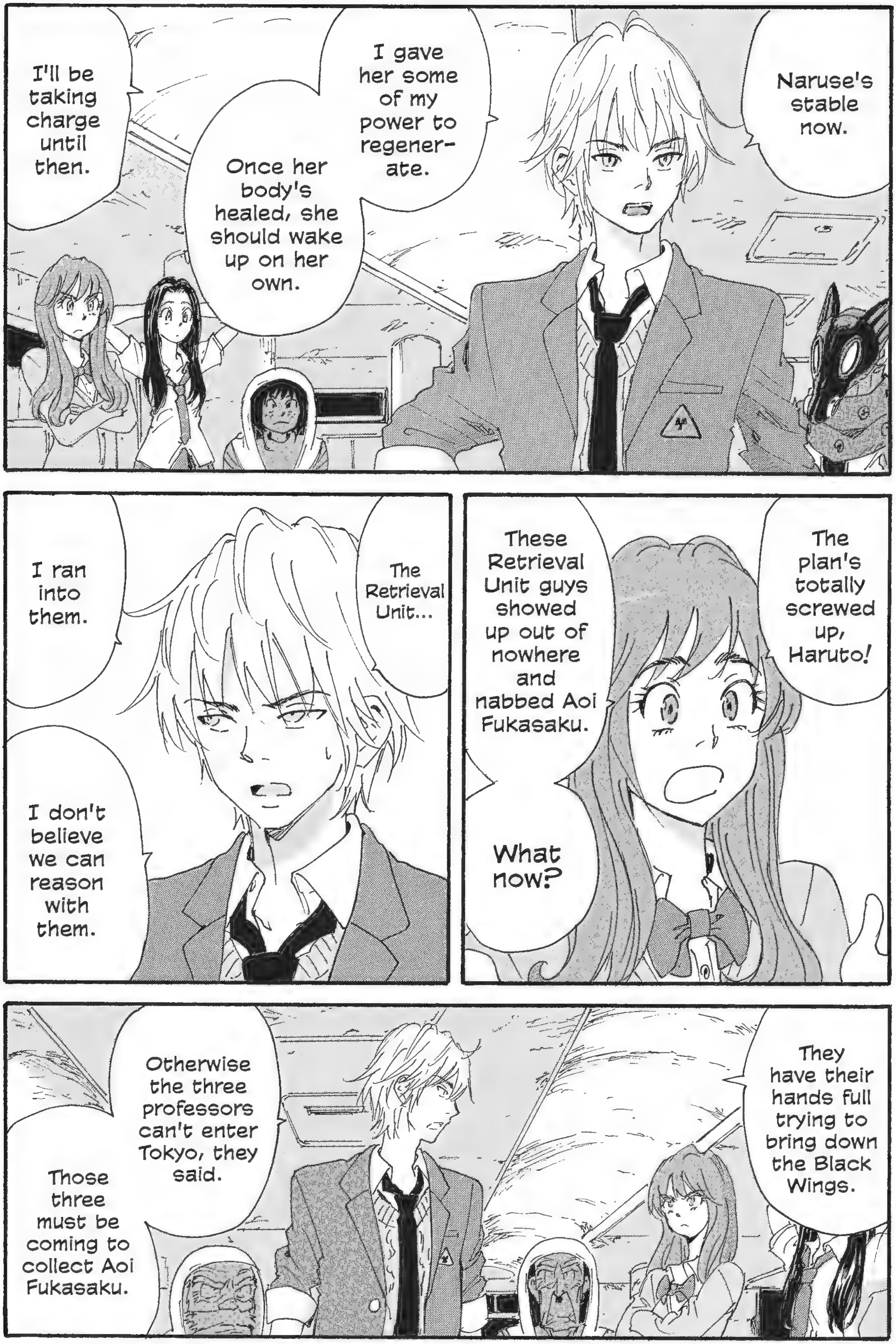

BEEEEE
BEEP BEEP
BEEP BEEP
Stop!
She's still in danger!
On no, her pulse!
I'll take care of the rest.
FW
AP

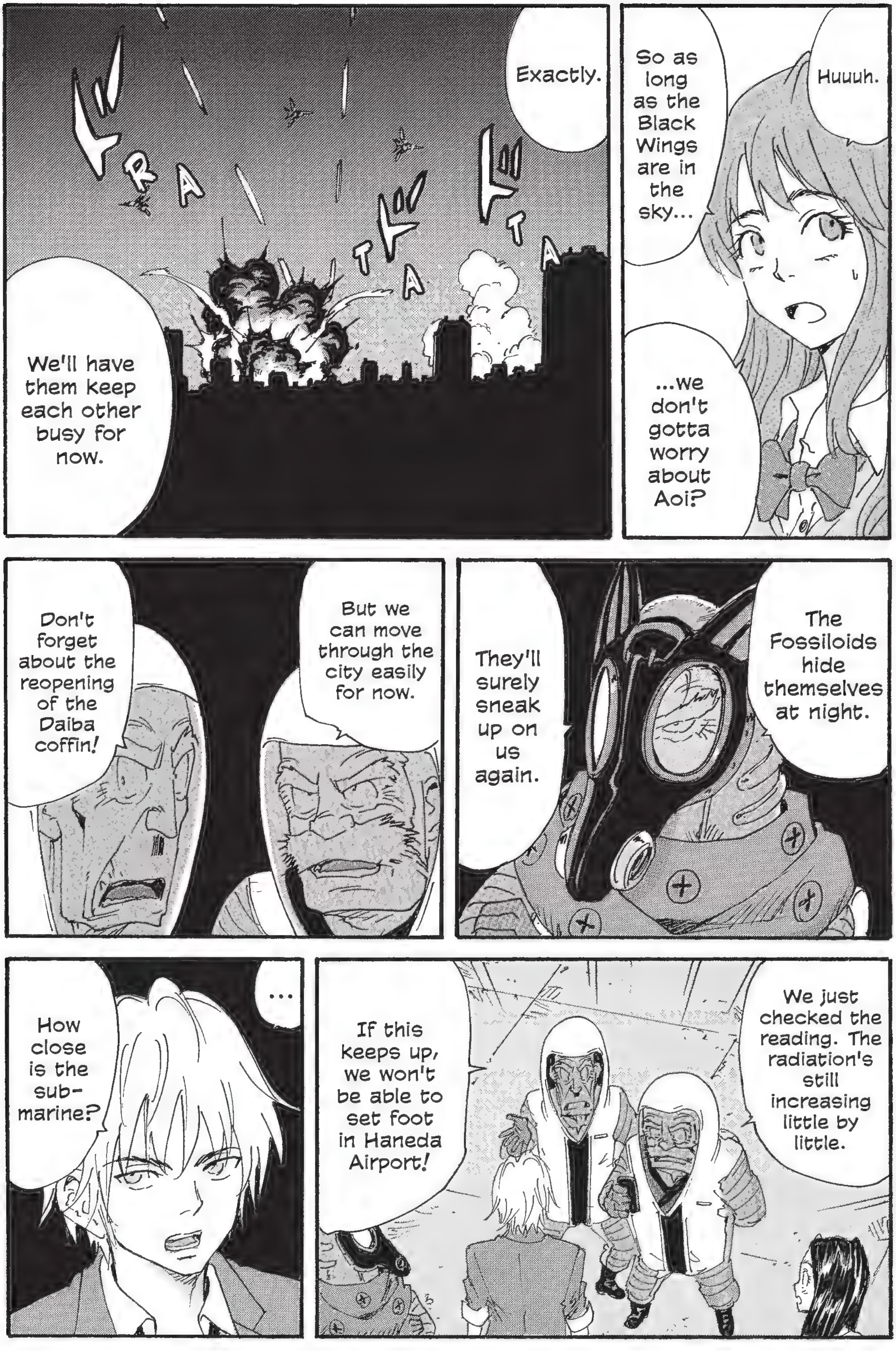

IN SURGERY
手術中
SLURP
OMF
OMF
Aren't you guys hungry?
You gonna eat or what?
We have nutrient jelly!
We gotta stick with just this today.
PCH
SLURP

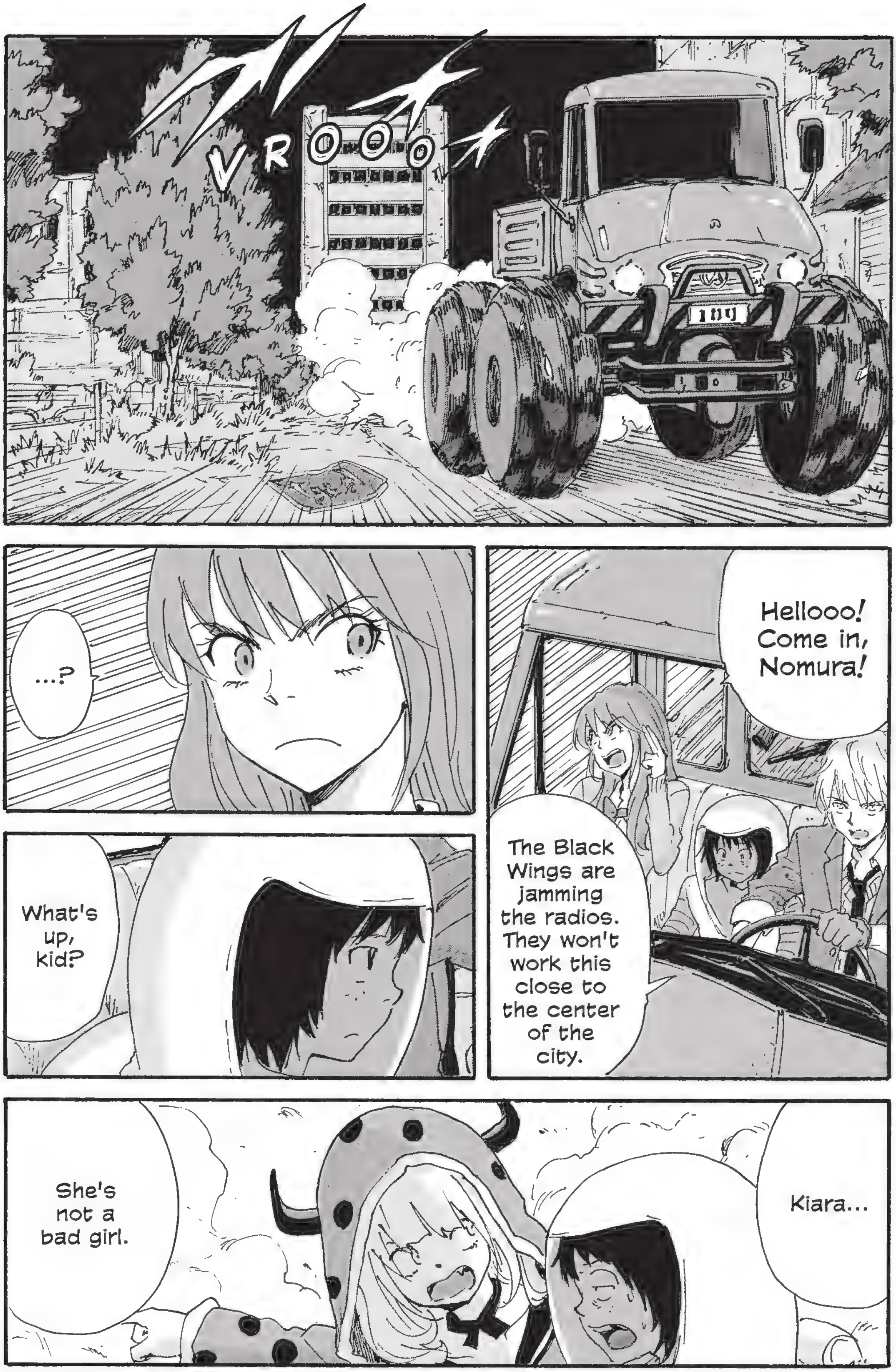

We only have enough oxygen and food ta last us until tomorrow mornin'!
What does this mean for the evacuation plan?
Beats me!
Our leader got shot, what can we do?
Those two are useless!
Thank goodness Haruto's here!
We'll just have to wait for the rep to get back on her feet.
Sis, where's dessert?
There ain't any.

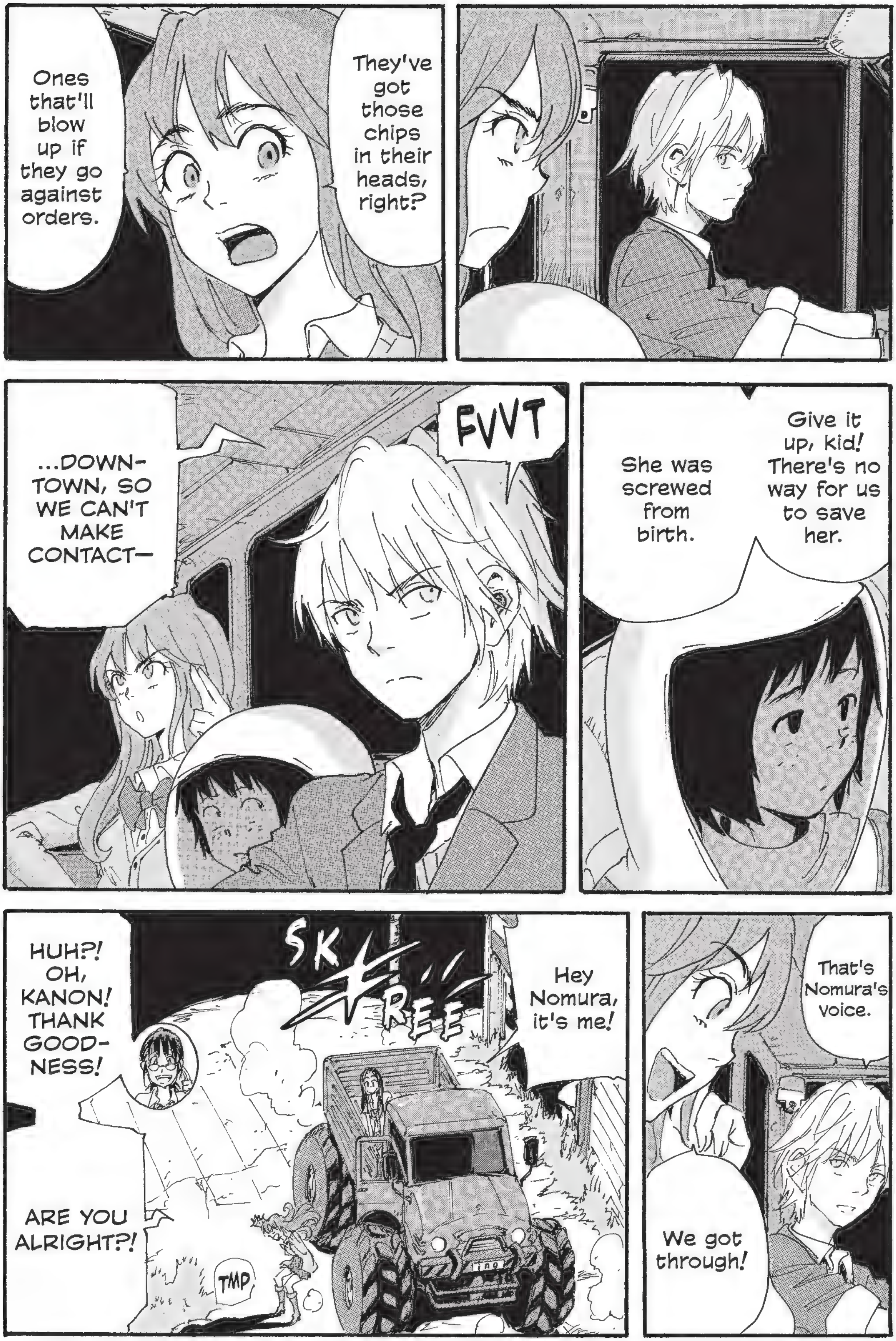


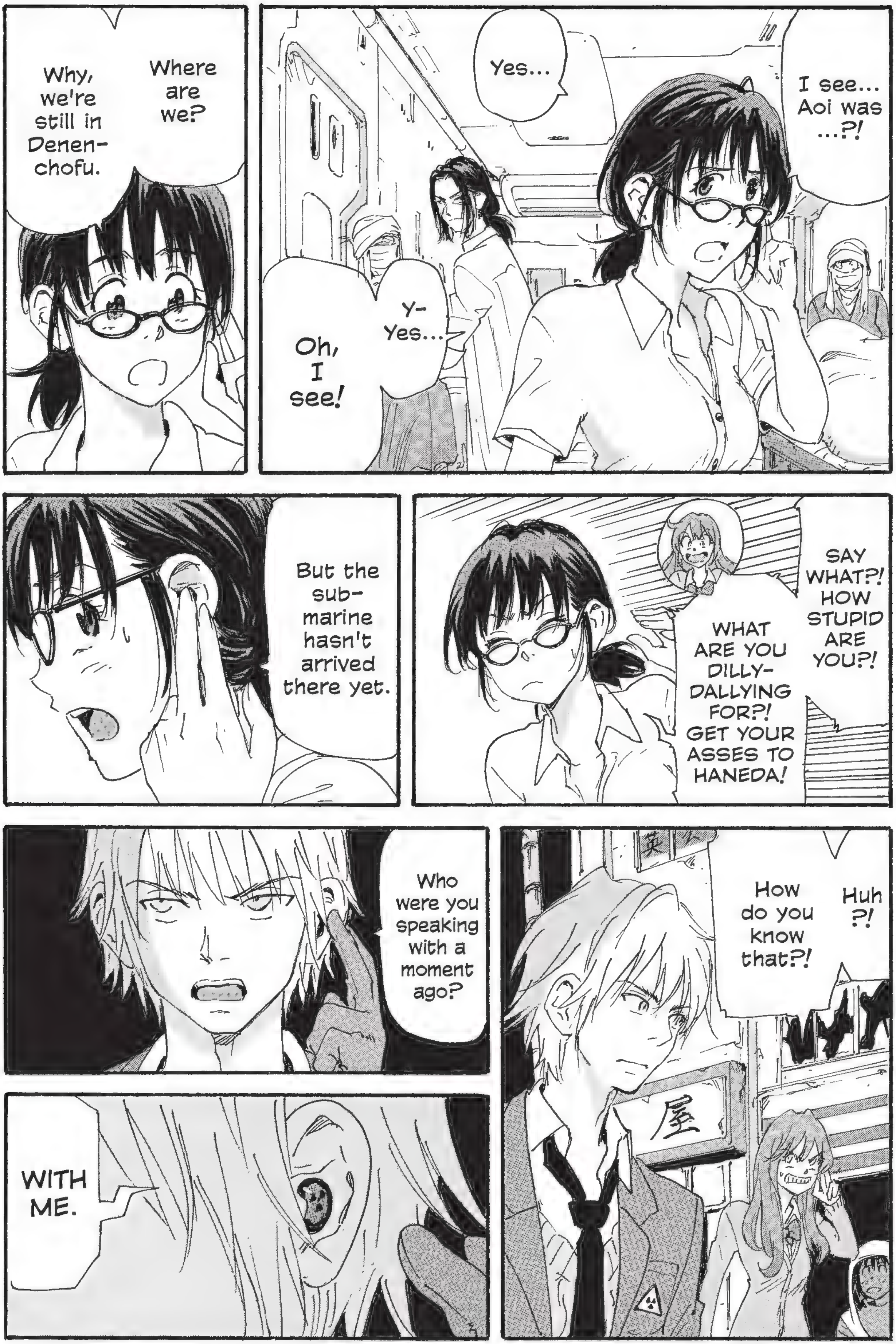

SWSH
BEEP
BEEP
CLOP
?
Is this everyone?

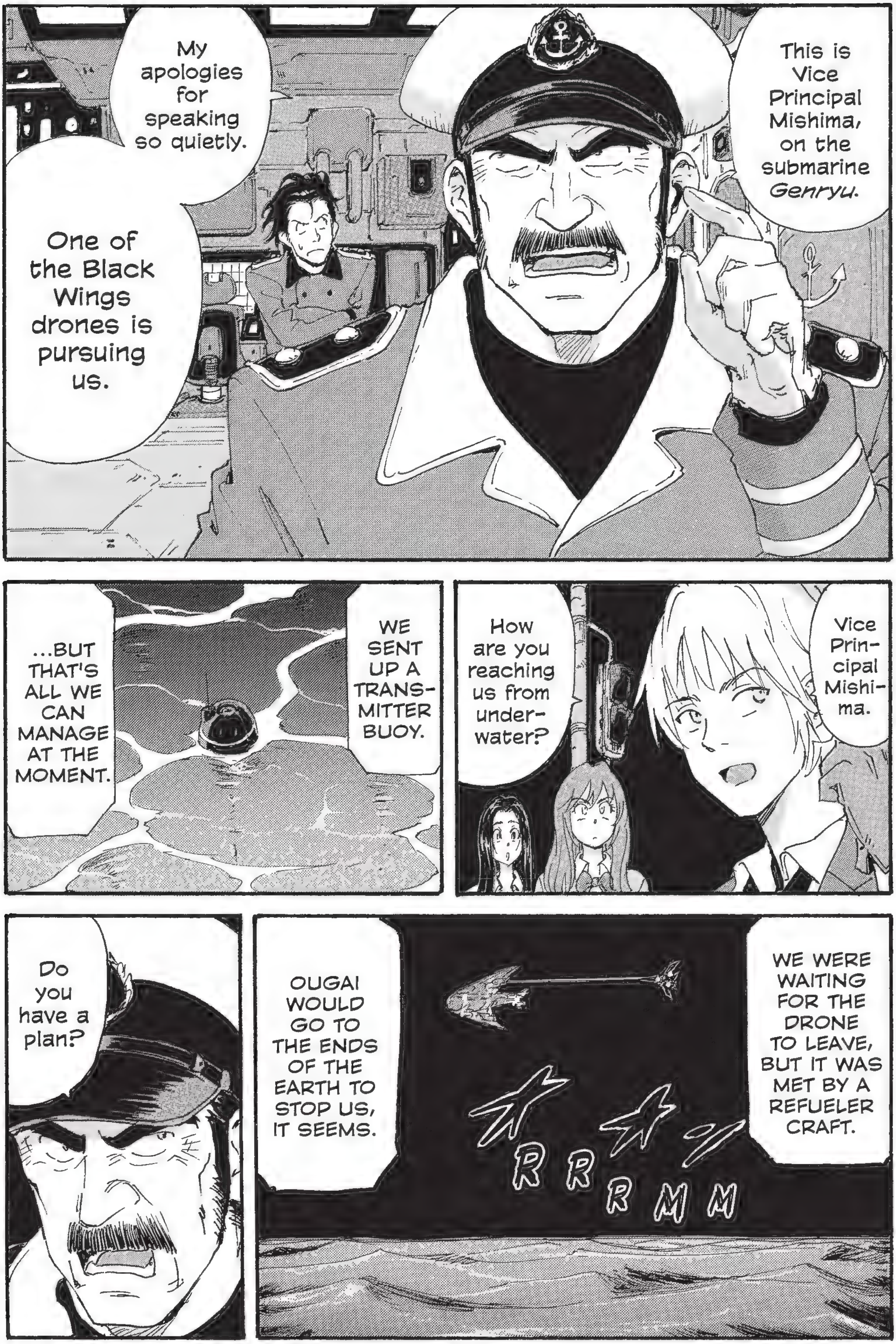

Naruse's stable now.
I gave her some of my power to regenerate.
Once her body's healed, she should wake up on her own.
I'll be taking charge until then.
The plan's totally screwed up, Haruto!
These Retrieval Unit guys showed up out of nowhere and nabbed Aoi Fukasaku.
What now?
The Retrieval Unit...
I ran into them.
I don't believe we can reason with them.
They have their hands full trying to bring down the Black Wings.
Otherwise the three professors can't enter Tokyo, they said.
Those three must be coming to collect Aoi Fukasaku.

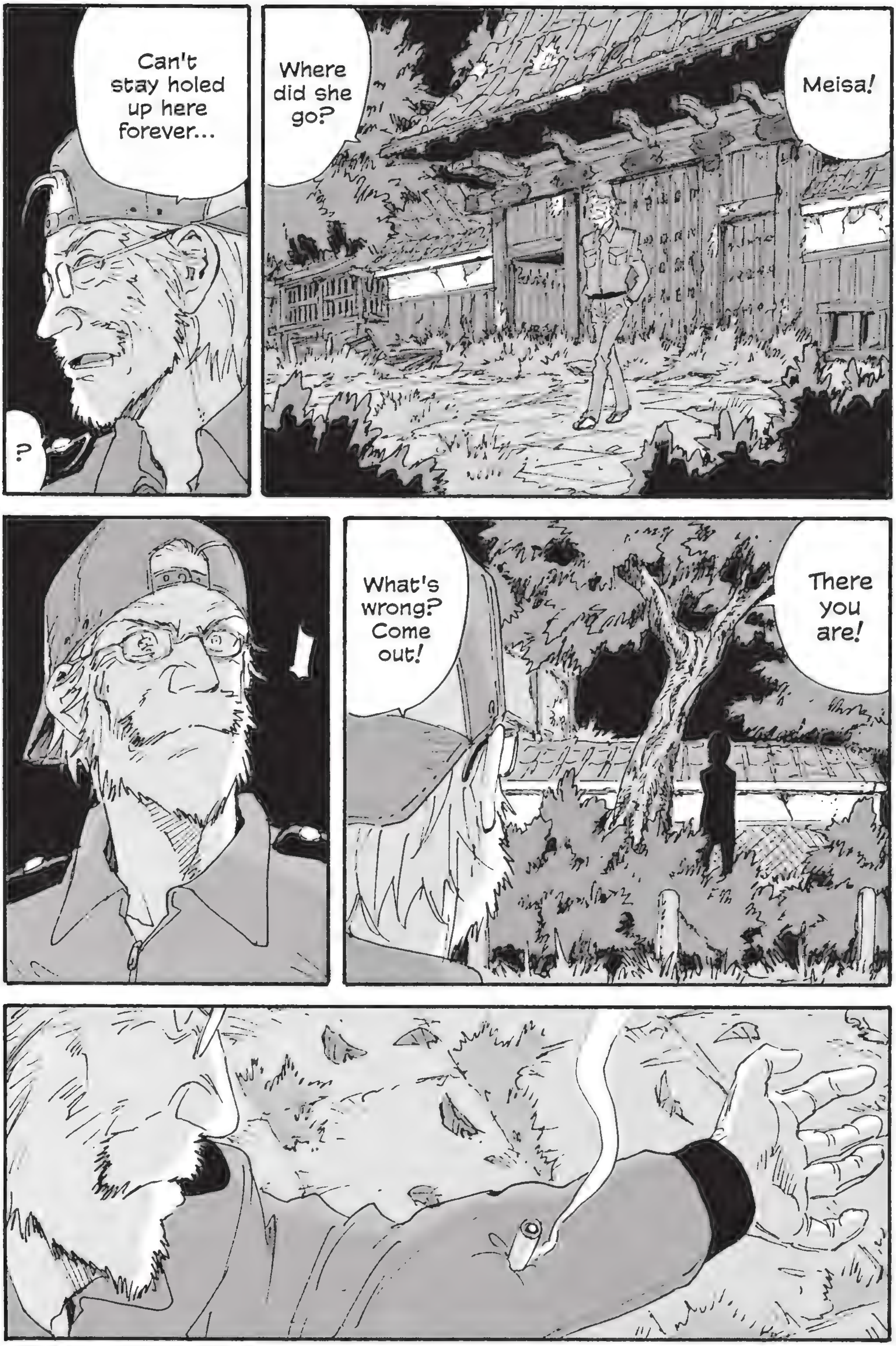

Huuuh.
So as long as the Black Wings are in the sky...
...we don't gotta worry about Aoi?
Exactly.
RATATATA
We'll have them keep each other busy for now.
The Fossiloids hide themselves at night.
They'll surely sneak up on us again.
But we can move through the city easily for now.
Don't forget about the reopening of the Daiba coffin!
We just checked the reading. The radiation's still increasing little by little.
If this keeps up, we won't be able to set foot in Haneda Airport!
...
How close is the submarine?

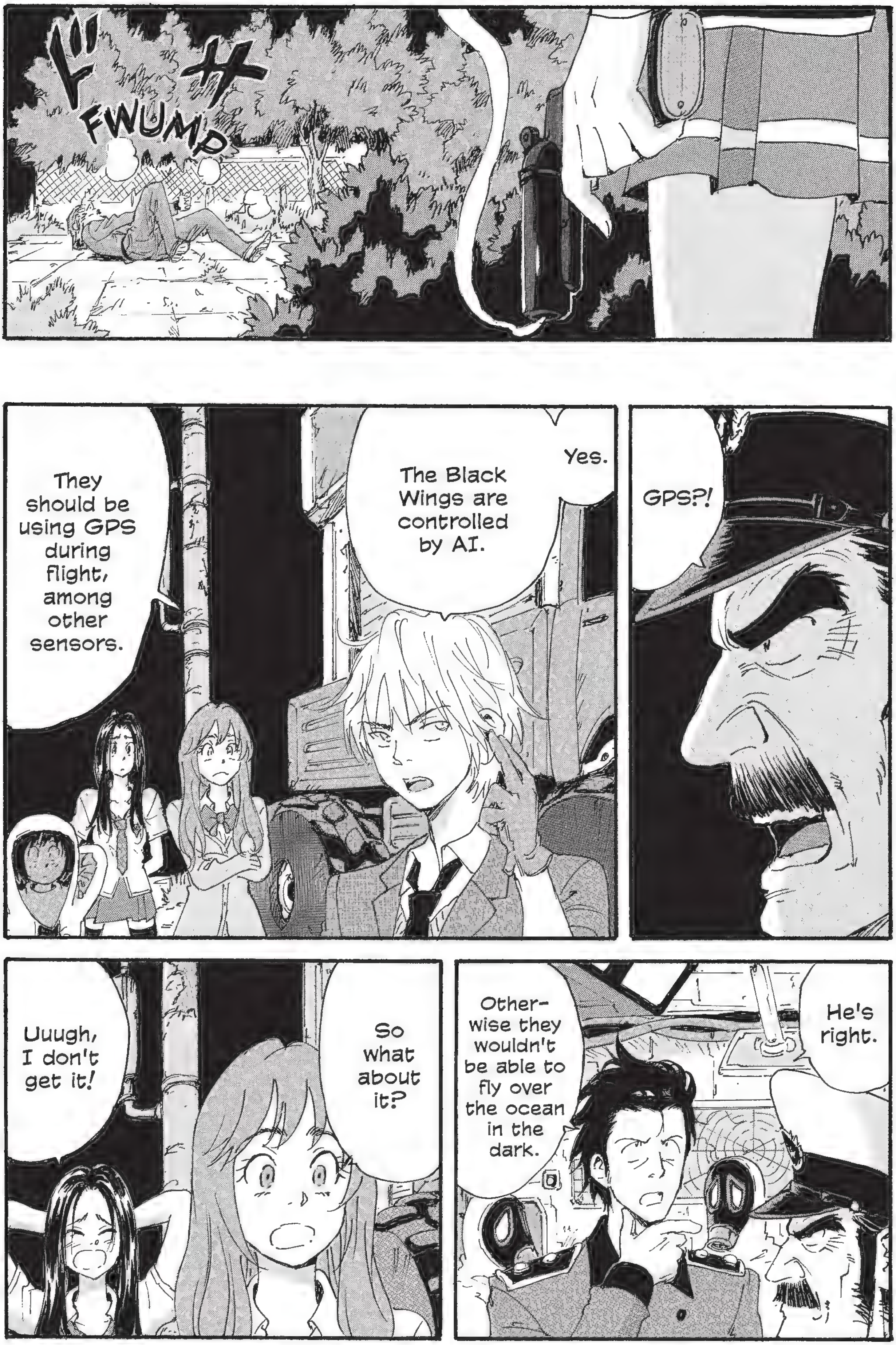

VROOOO
Hellooo! Come in, Nomura!
The Black Wings are jamming the radios. They won't work this close to the center of the city.
...?
What's up, kid?
Kiara...
She's not a bad girl.

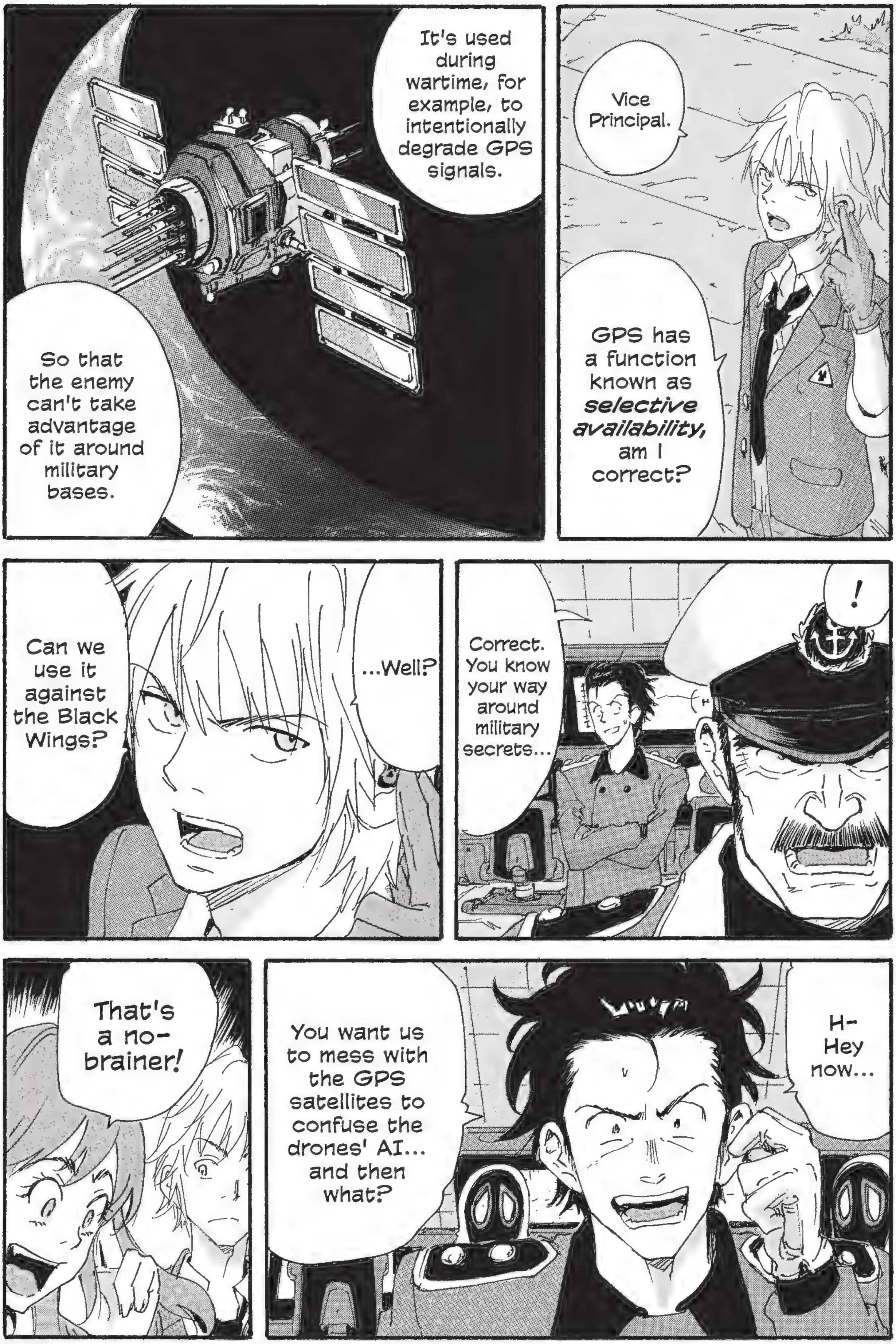

They've got those chips in their heads, right?
Ones that'll blow up if they go against orders.
Give it up, kid! There's no way for us to save her.
She was screwed from birth.
FVVT
...DOWNTOWN, SO WE CAN'T MAKE CONTACT—
That's Nomura's voice.
We got through!
Hey Nomura, it's me!
SKREE
HUH?! OH, KANON! THANK GOODNESS!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!
TMP

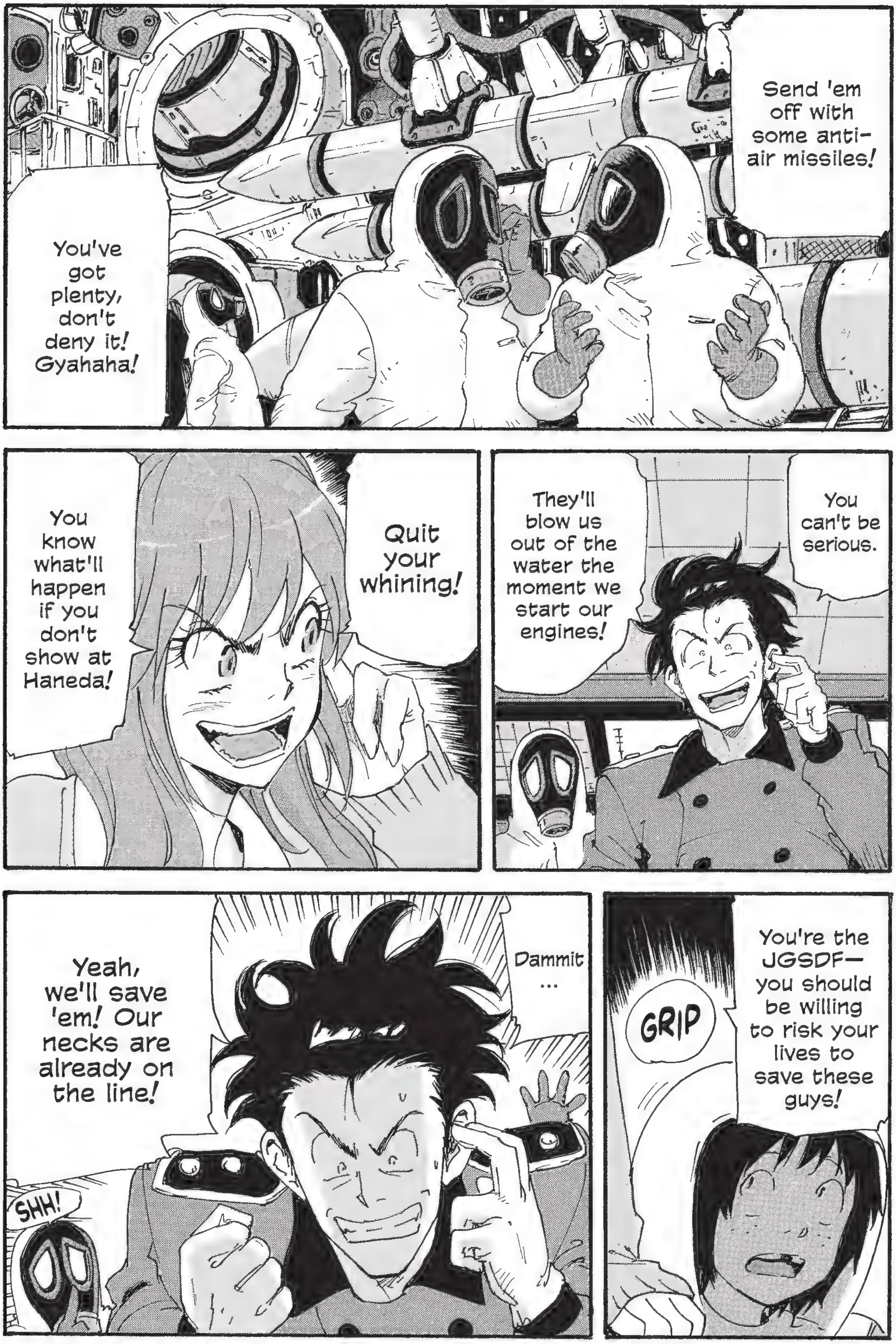

I see... Aoi was ...?!
Yes...
Y-Yes...
Oh, I see!
Where are we?
Why, we're still in Denenchofu.
SAY WHAT?! HOW STUPID ARE YOU?!
WHAT ARE YOU DILLY-DALLYING FOR?! GET YOUR ASSES TO HANEDA!
But the submarine hasn't arrived there yet.
Huh?!
How do you know that?!
Who were you speaking with a moment ago?
WITH ME.

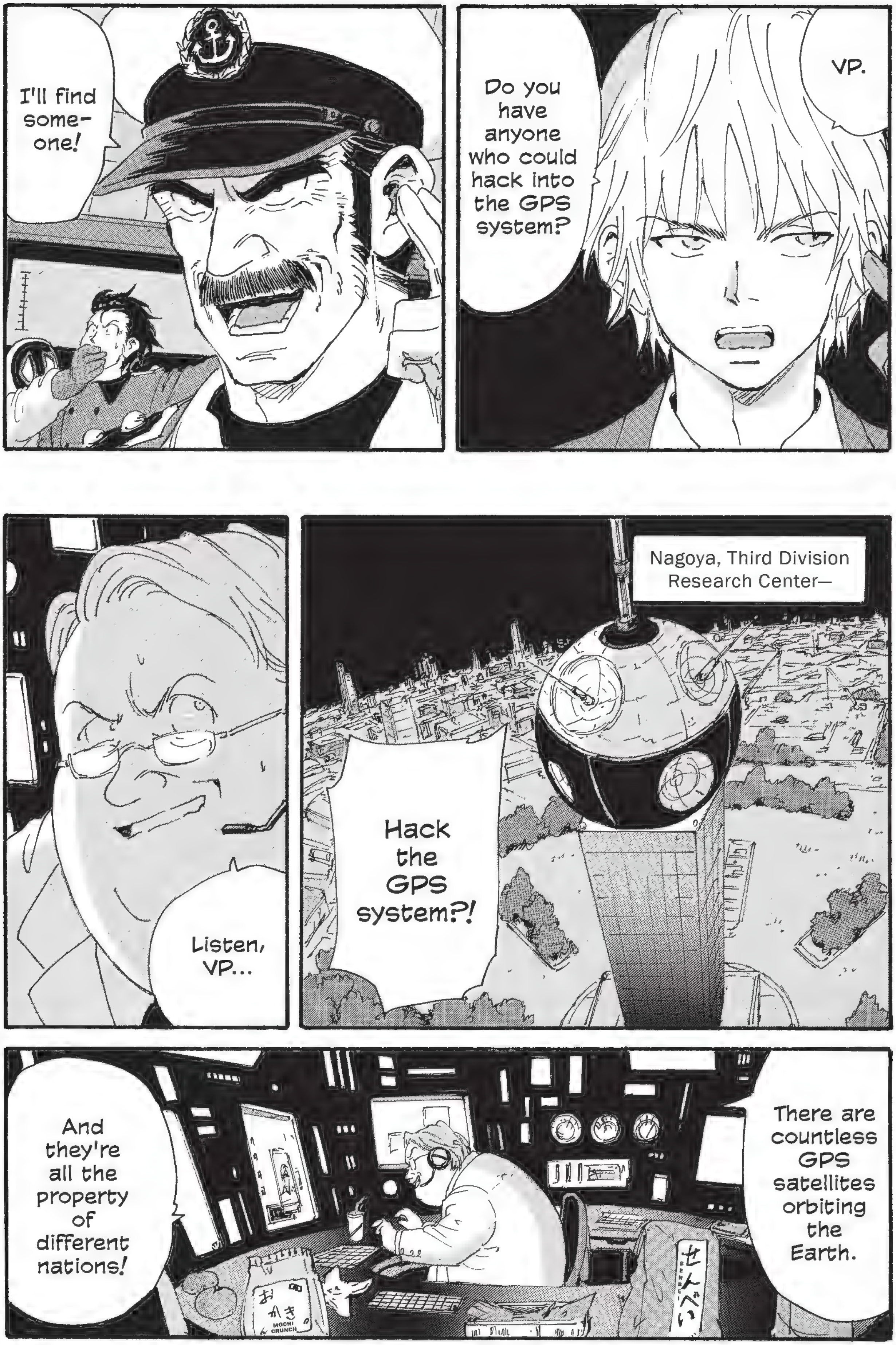

This is Vice Principal Mishima, on the submarine *Genryu*.
My apologies for speaking so quietly.
One of the Black Wings drones is pursuing us.
Vice Principal Mishima.
How are you reaching us from underwater?
WE SENT UP A TRANSMITTER BUOY.
...BUT THAT'S ALL WE CAN MANAGE AT THE MOMENT.
WE WERE WAITING FOR THE DRONE TO LEAVE, BUT IT WAS MET BY A REFUELER CRAFT.
OUGAI WOULD GO TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH TO STOP US, IT SEEMS.
RRRMM
Do you have a plan?

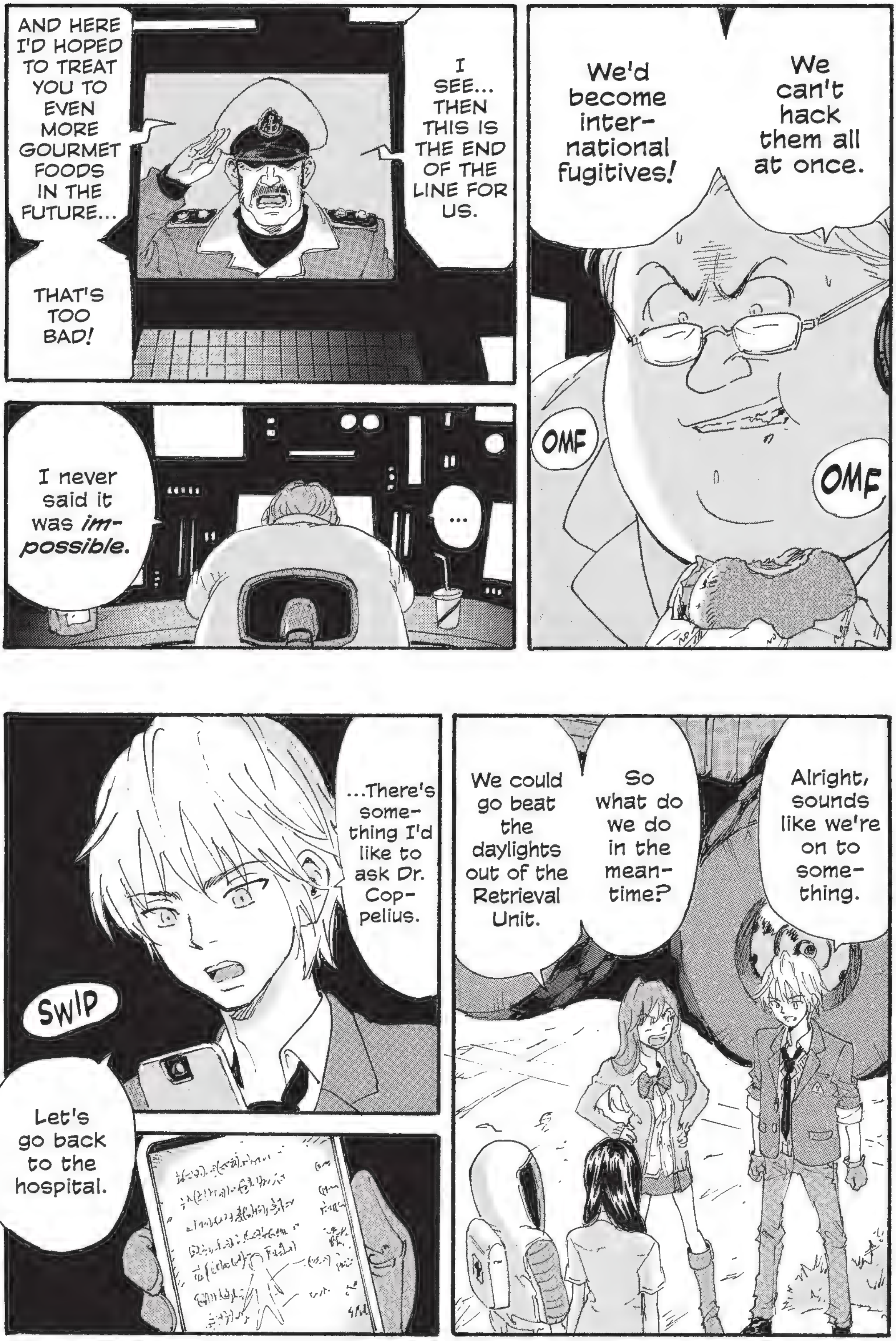

Meisa!
Where did she go?
Can't stay holed up here forever...
?
There you are!
What's wrong? Come out!

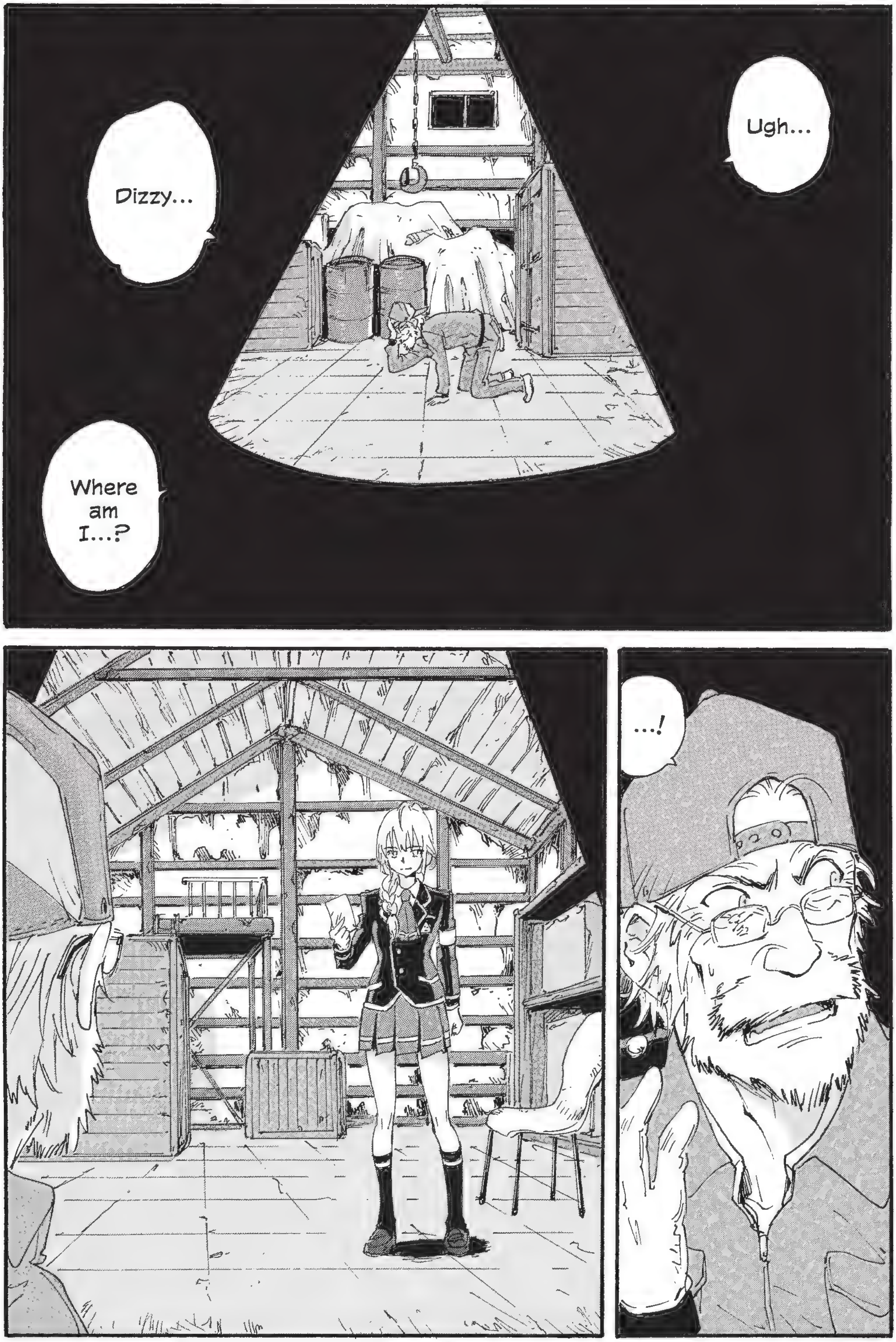

ドサッ
FWUMP
GPS?!
Yes.
The Black Wings are controlled by AI.
They should be using GPS during flight, among other sensors.
He's right.
Otherwise they wouldn't be able to fly over the ocean in the dark.
So what about it?
Uuugh, I don't get it!

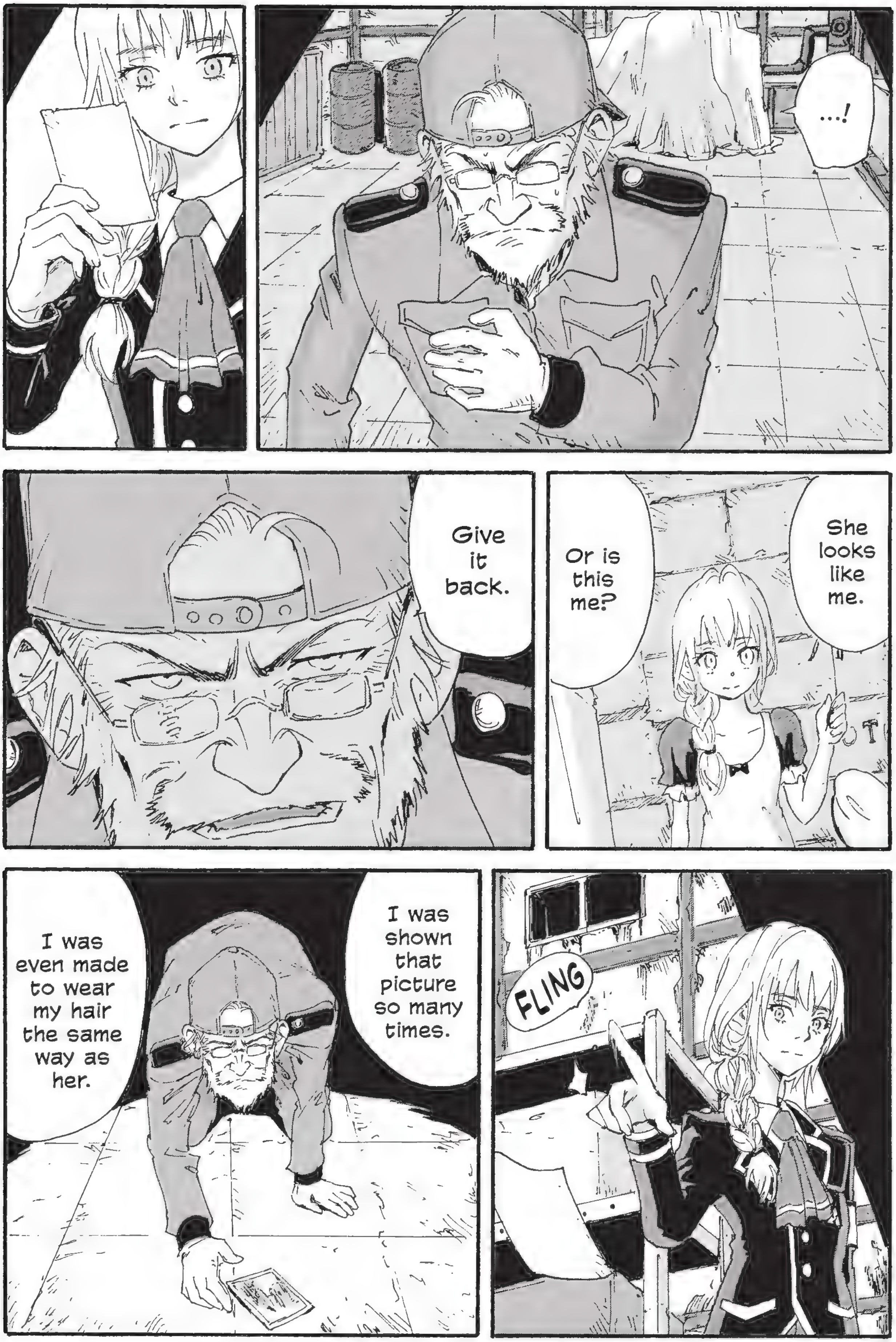

Vice Principal.
GPS has a function known as *selective availability,* am I correct?
It's used during wartime, for example, to intentionally degrade GPS signals.
So that the enemy can't take advantage of it around military bases.
!
Correct. You know your way around military secrets...
...Well?
Can we use it against the Black Wings?
H-Hey now...
You want us to mess with the GPS satellites to confuse the drones' AI... and then what?
That's a no-brainer!

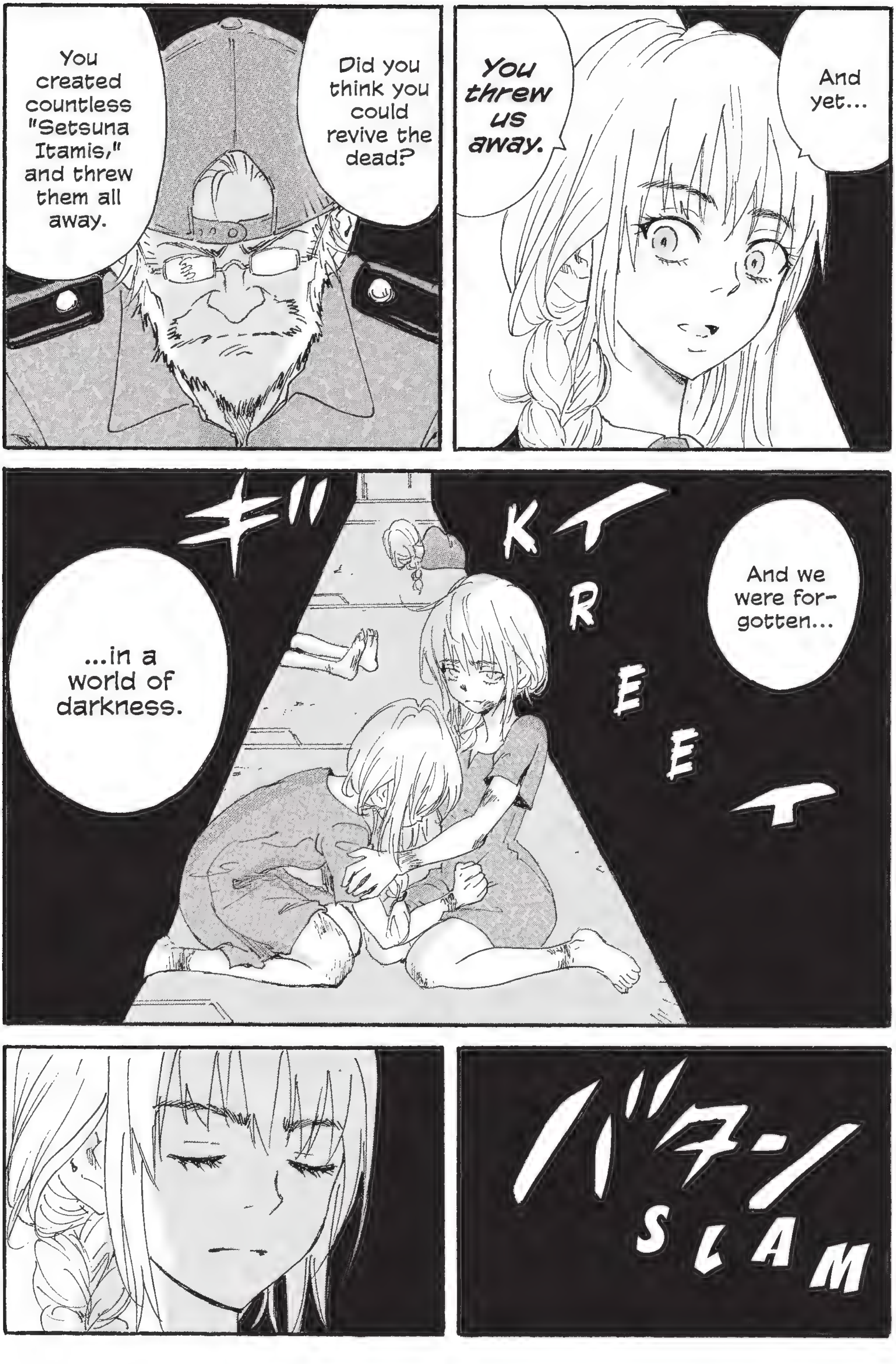

Send 'em off with some anti-air missiles!
You've got plenty, don't deny it! Gyahaha!
You can't be serious.
They'll blow us out of the water the moment we start our engines!
Quit your whining!
You know what'll happen if you don't show at Haneda!
You're the JGSDF—you should be willing to risk your lives to save these guys!
GRIP
Dammit...
Yeah, we'll save 'em! Our necks are already on the line!
SHH!

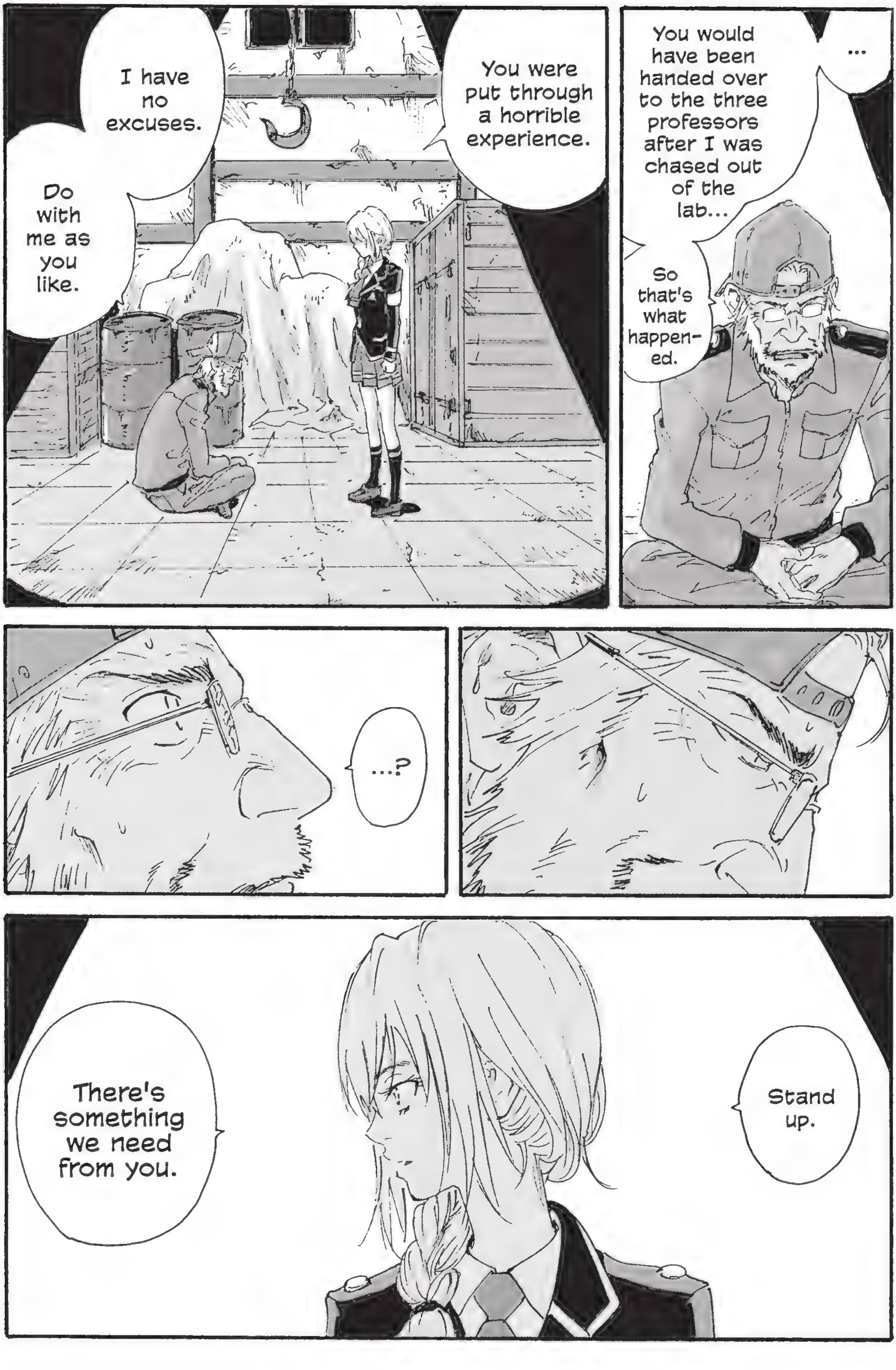

VP.
Do you have anyone who could hack into the GPS system?
I'll find someone!
Nagoya, Third Division Research Center—
Hack the GPS system?!
Listen, VP...
There are countless GPS satellites orbiting the Earth.
And they're all the property of different nations!
せんべい SENBEI
おかき MOCHI CRUNCH

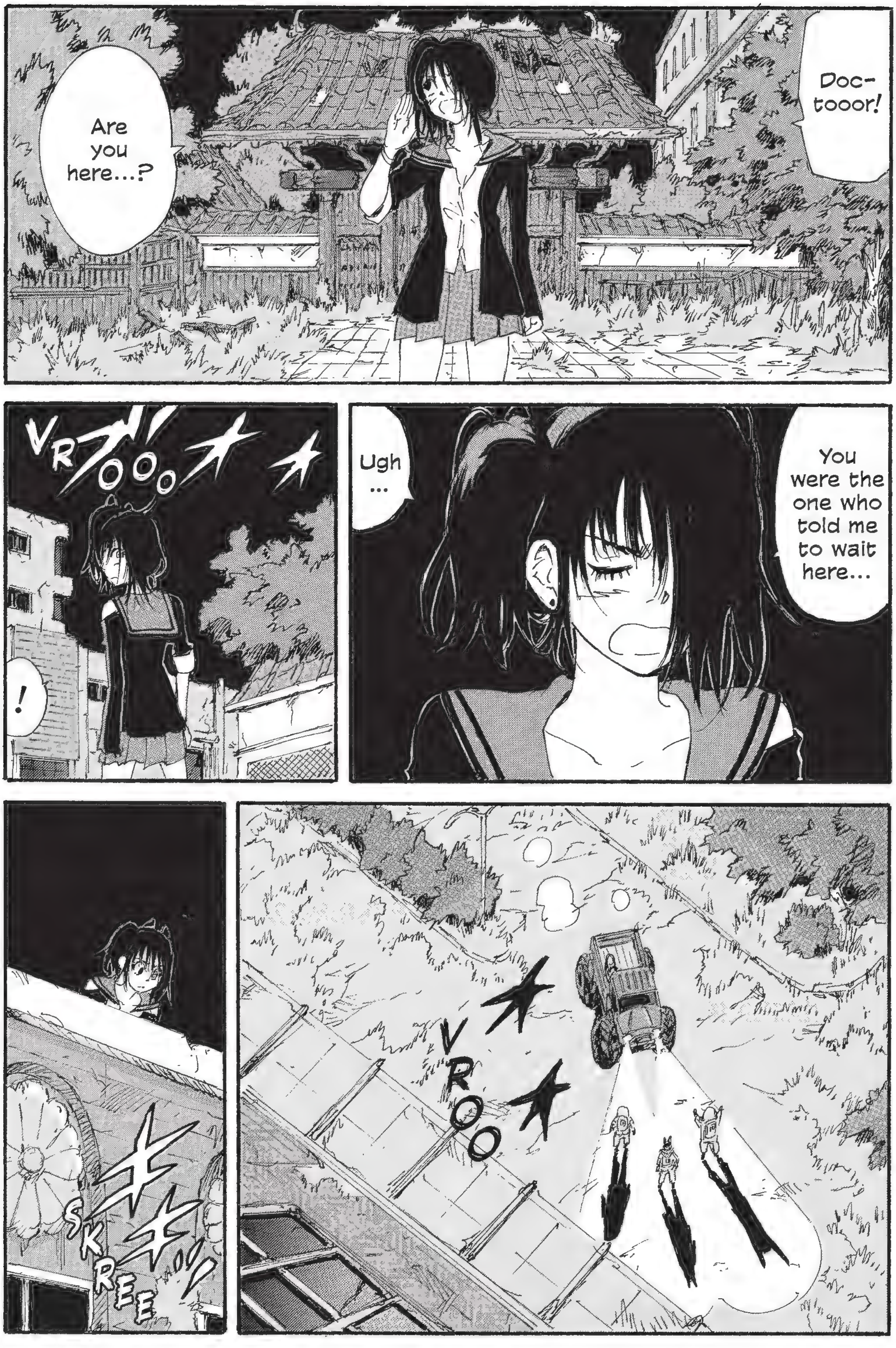

We can't hack them all at once.
We'd become international fugitives!
OMF
OMF
I SEE... THEN THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE FOR US.
AND HERE I'D HOPED TO TREAT YOU TO EVEN MORE GOURMET FOODS IN THE FUTURE...
THAT'S TOO BAD!
...
I never said it was *impossible*.
Alright, sounds like we're on to something.
So what do we do in the meantime?
We could go beat the daylights out of the Retrieval Unit.
...There's something I'd like to ask Dr. Coppelius.
SWIP
Let's go back to the hospital.

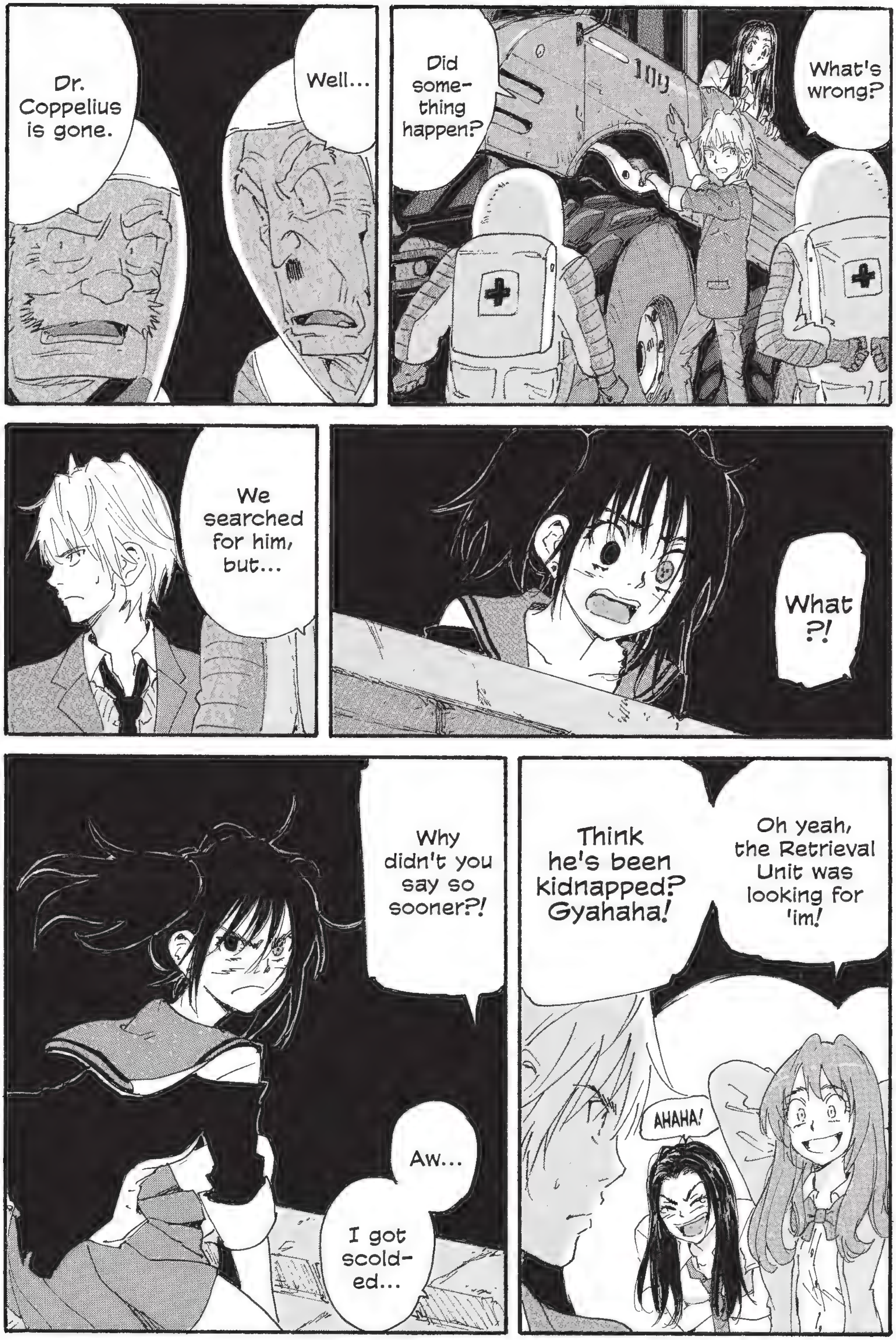

Ugh...
Dizzy...
Where am I...?
...!

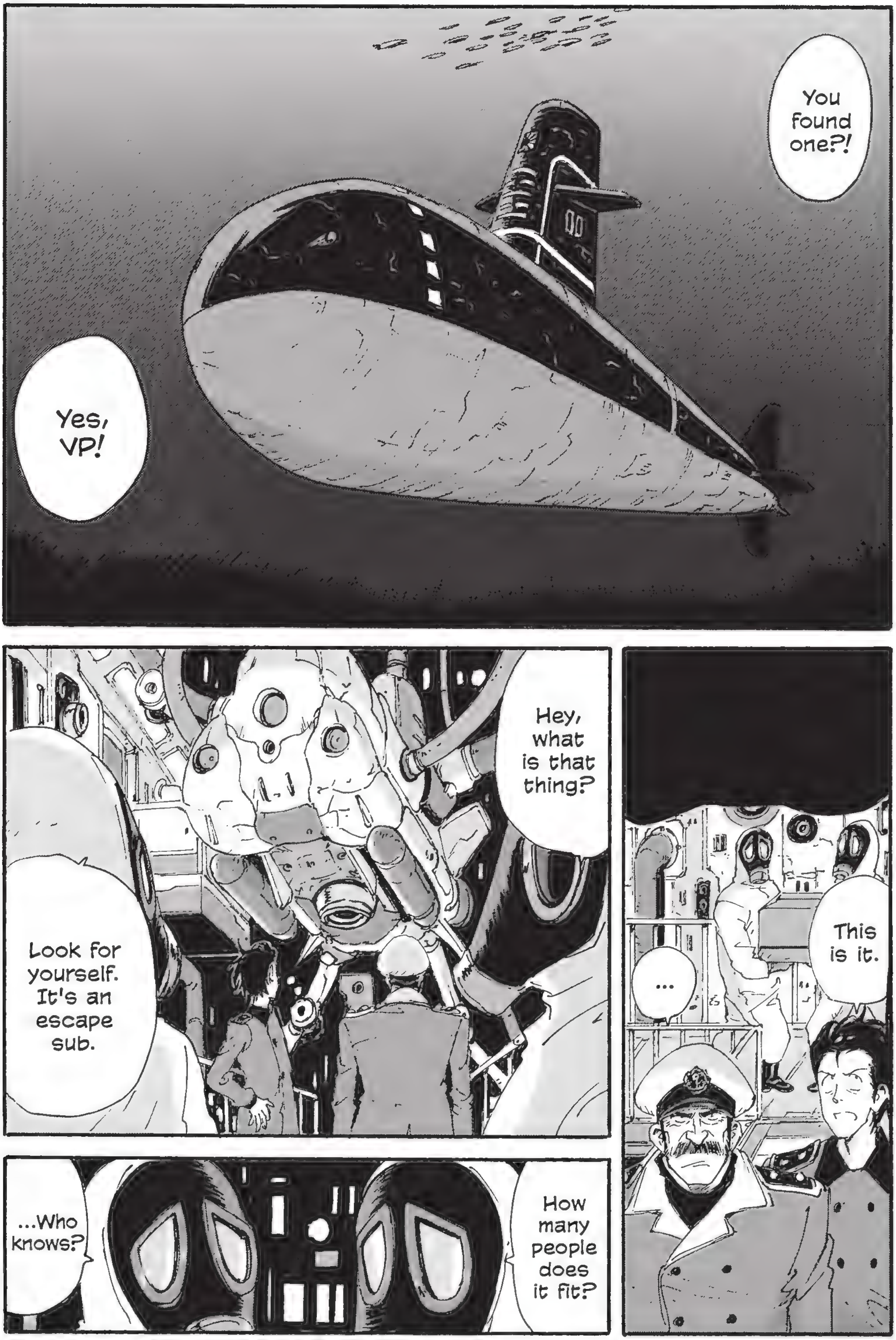

...!
She looks like me.
Or is this me?
Give it back.
FLING
I was shown that picture so many times.
I was even made to wear my hair the same way as her.

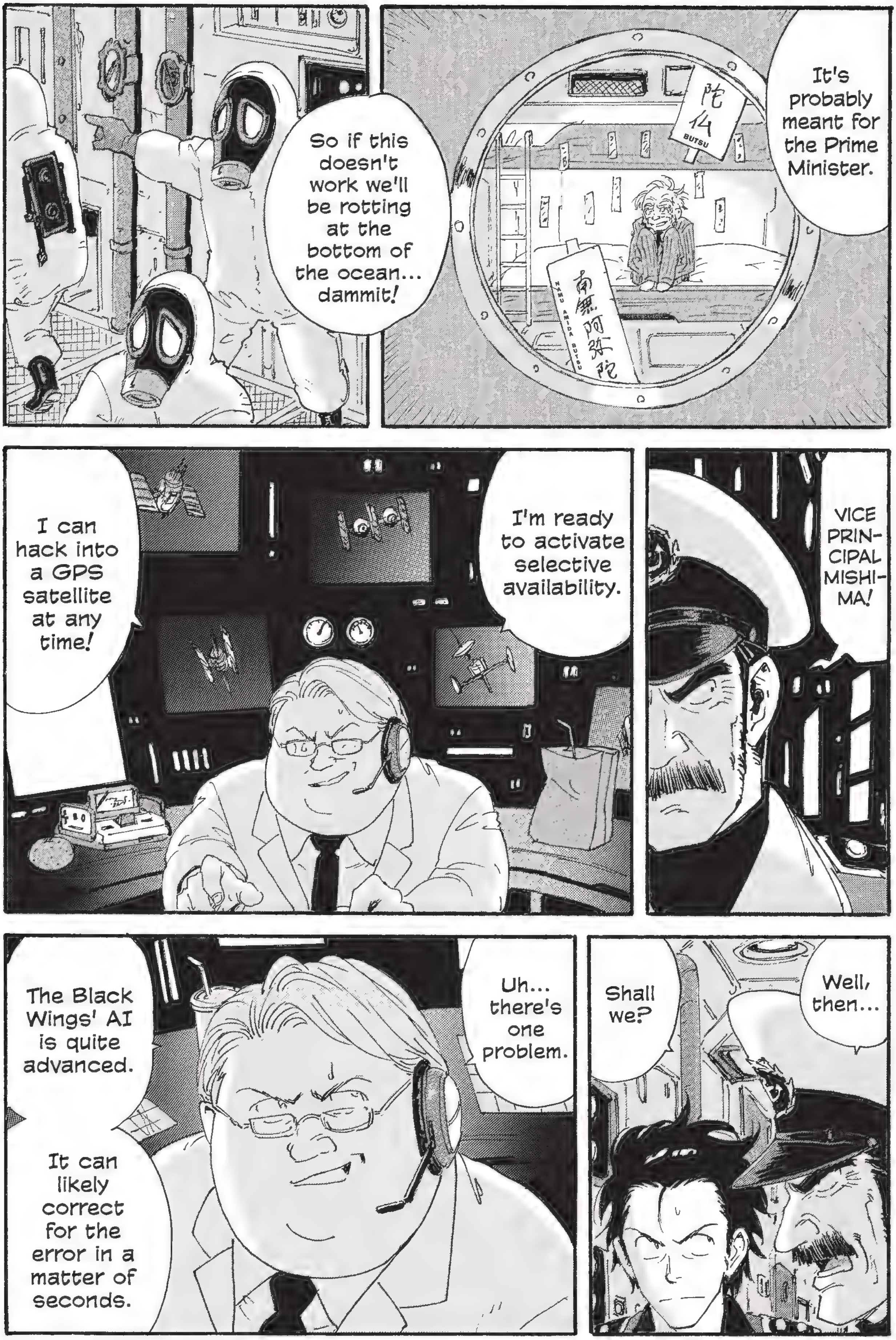

And yet...
You threw us away.
Did you think you could revive the dead?
You created countless "Setsuna Itamis," and threw them all away.
And we were forgotten...
KREE
イ
イ
ギィ
...in a world of darkness.
バターン
SLAM

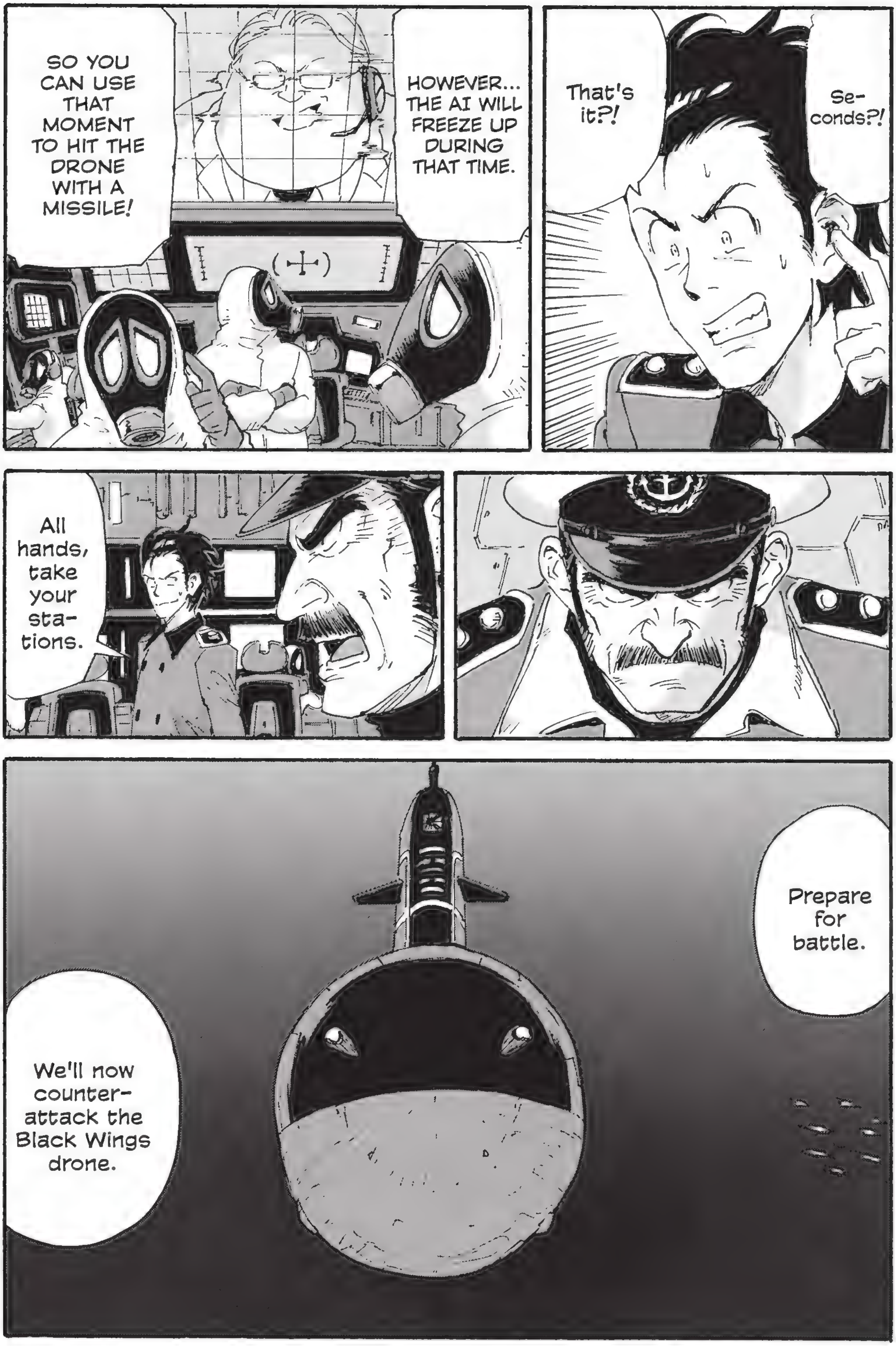

...
You would have been handed over to the three professors after I was chased out of the lab...
So that's what happened.
You were put through a horrible experience.
I have no excuses.
Do with me as you like.
...?
Stand up.
There's something we need from you.

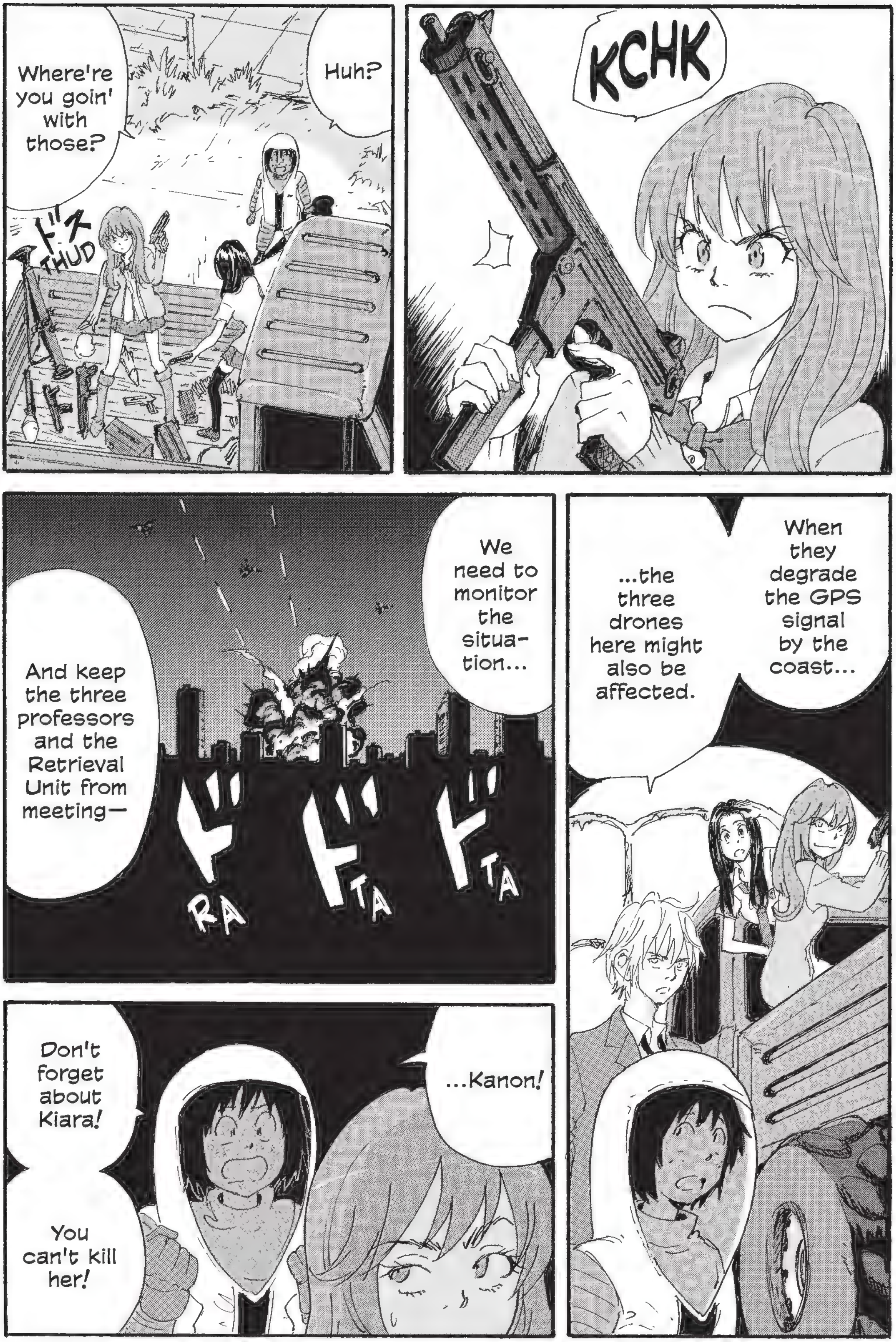

Doc-tooor!
Are you here...?
You were the one who told me to wait here...
Ugh...
VROOOO
!
VROOO
SKREEE

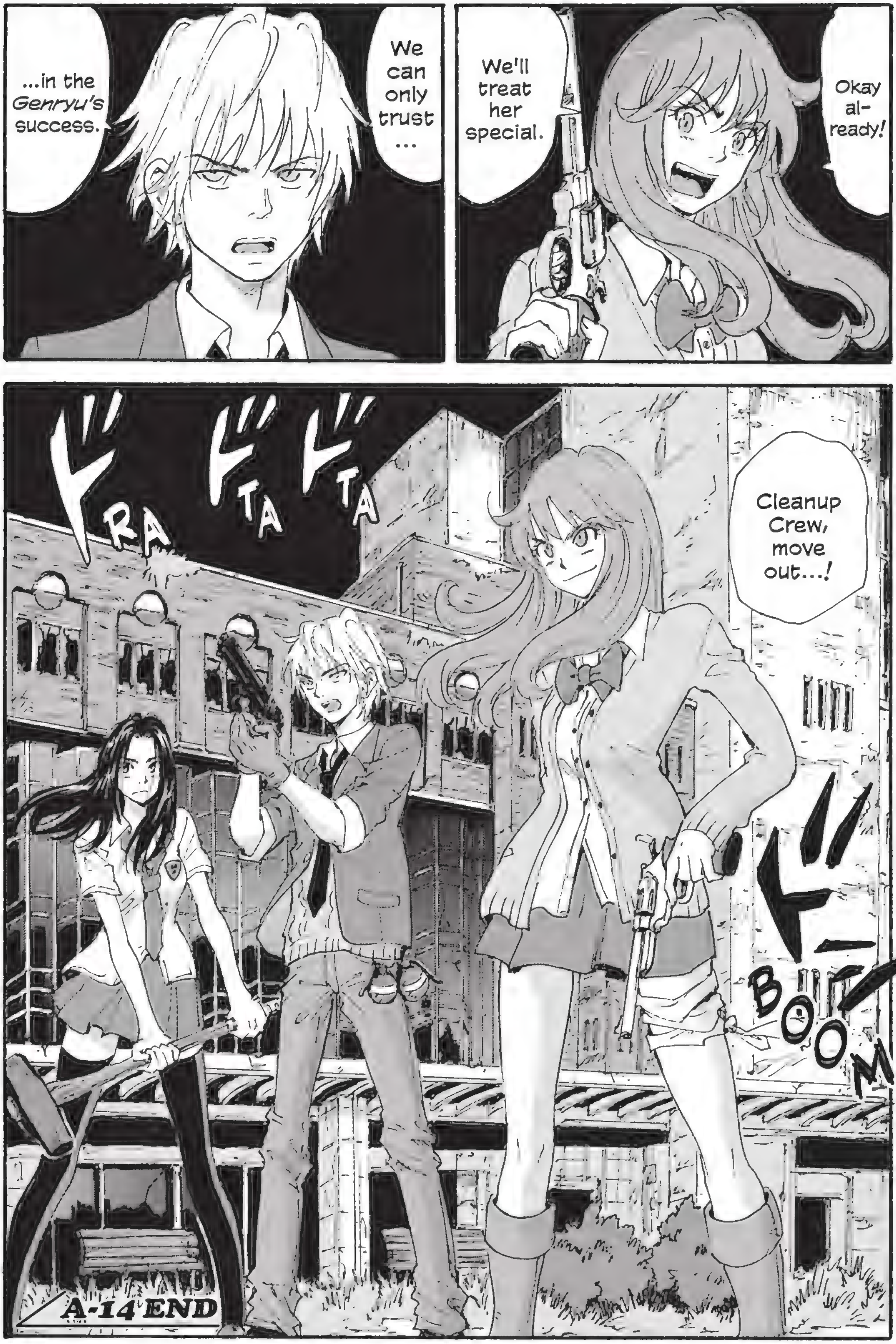

What's wrong?
Did something happen?
Well...
Dr. Coppelius is gone.
What?!
We searched for him, but...
Oh yeah, the Retrieval Unit was looking for 'im!
Think he's been kidnapped? Gyahaha!
AHAHA!
Why didn't you say so sooner?!
Aw...
I got scolded...


You found one?!
Yes, VP!
This is it.
...
Hey, what is that thing?
Look for yourself. It's an escape sub.
How many people does it fit?
...Who knows?

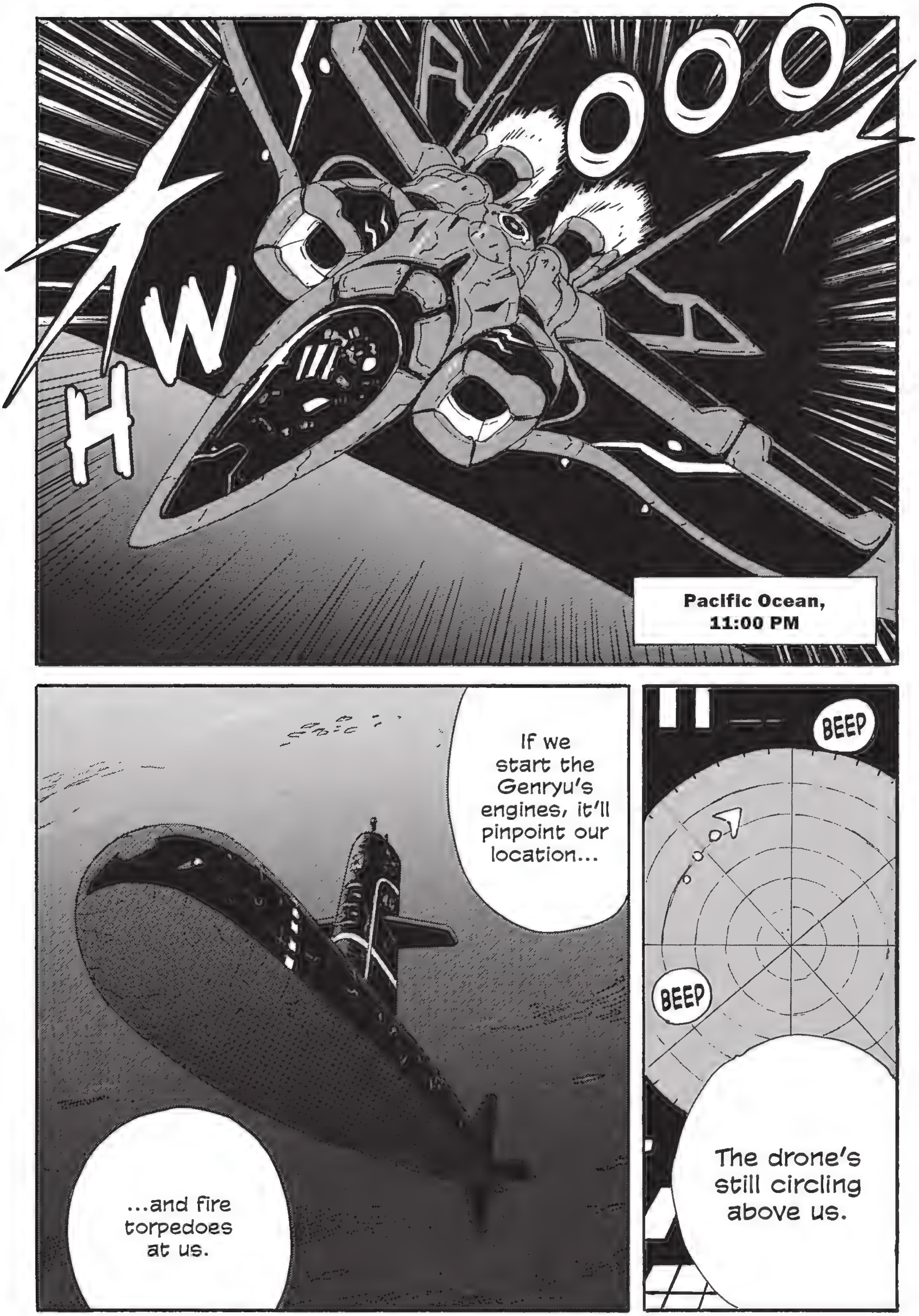

陀仏
BUTSU
南無阿弥陀
NAMU AMIDA BUTSU
It's probably meant for the Prime Minister.
So if this doesn't work we'll be rotting at the bottom of the ocean... dammit!
VICE PRINCIPAL MISHIMA!
I'm ready to activate selective availability.
I can hack into a GPS satellite at any time!
Well, then...
Shall we?
Uh... there's one problem.
The Black Wings' AI is quite advanced.
It can likely correct for the error in a matter of seconds.

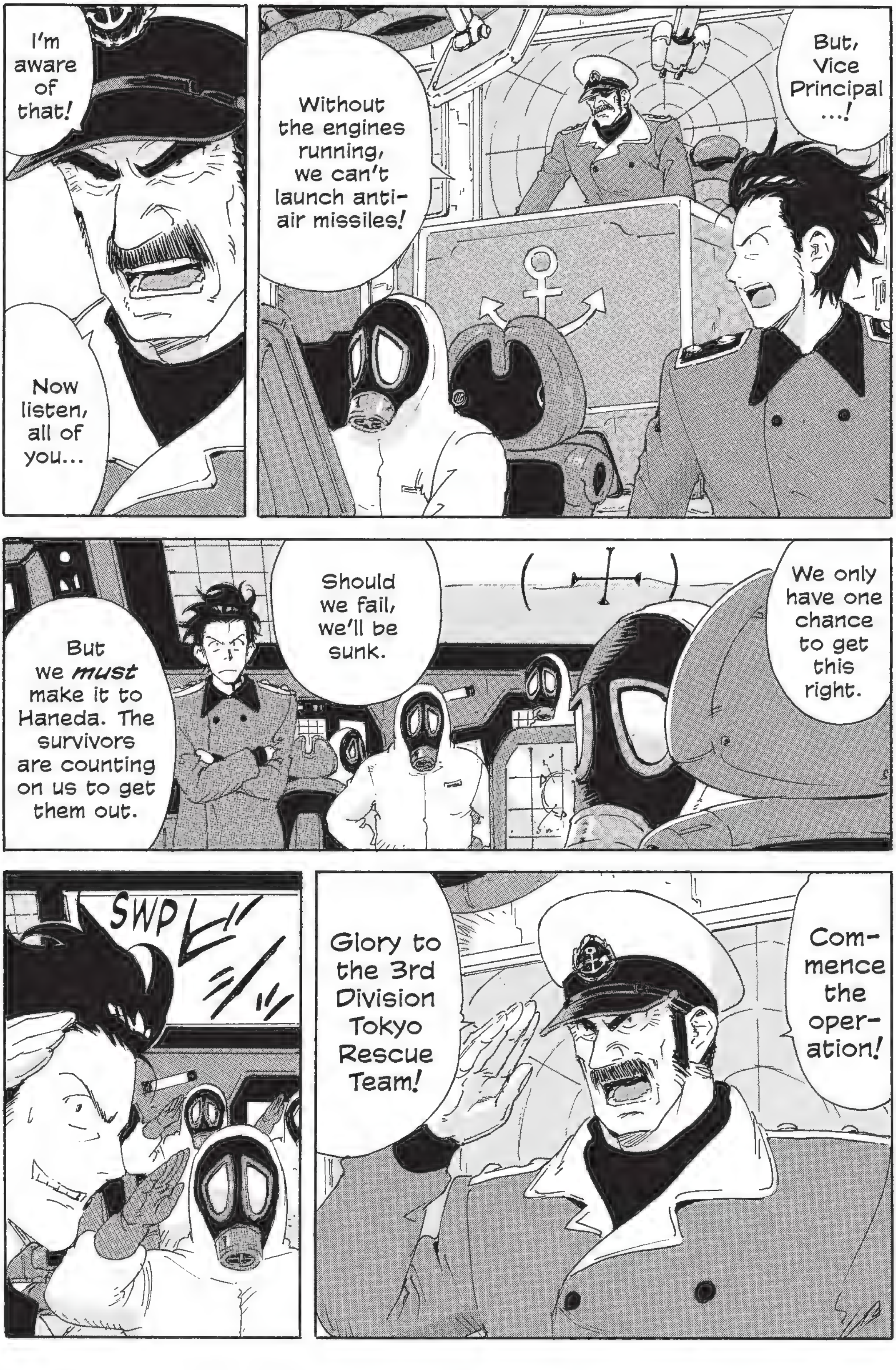

Seconds?!
That's it?!
HOWEVER... THE AI WILL FREEZE UP DURING THAT TIME.
SO YOU CAN USE THAT MOMENT TO HIT THE DRONE WITH A MISSILE!
All hands, take your stations.
Prepare for battle.
We'll now counterattack the Black Wings drone.

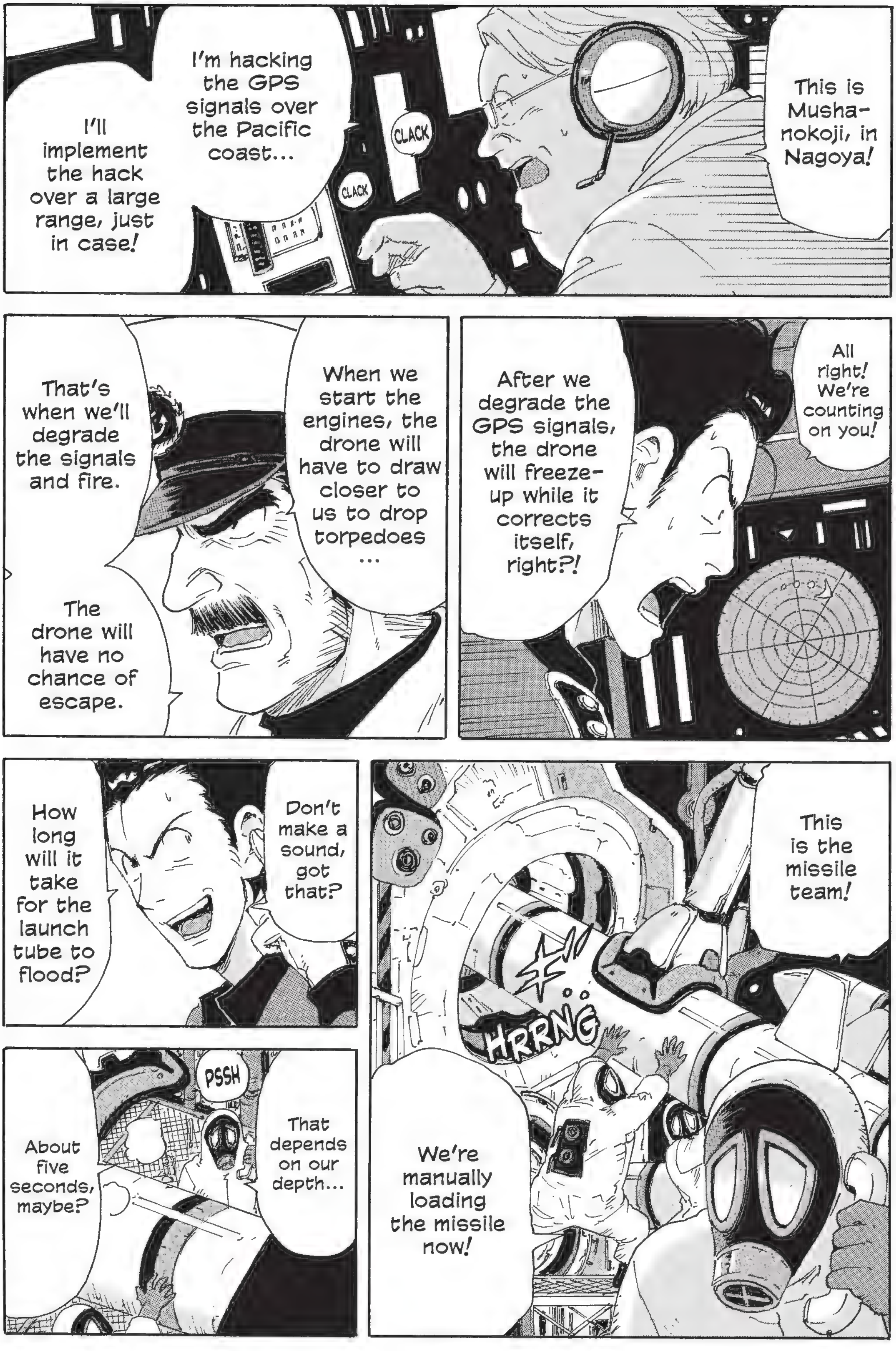

KCHK
Huh?
Where're you goin' with those?
ドス THUD
When they degrade the GPS signal by the coast...
...the three drones here might also be affected.
We need to monitor the situation...
And keep the three professors and the Retrieval Unit from meeting—
ドドド RA TA TA
...Kanon!
Don't forget about Kiara!
You can't kill her!

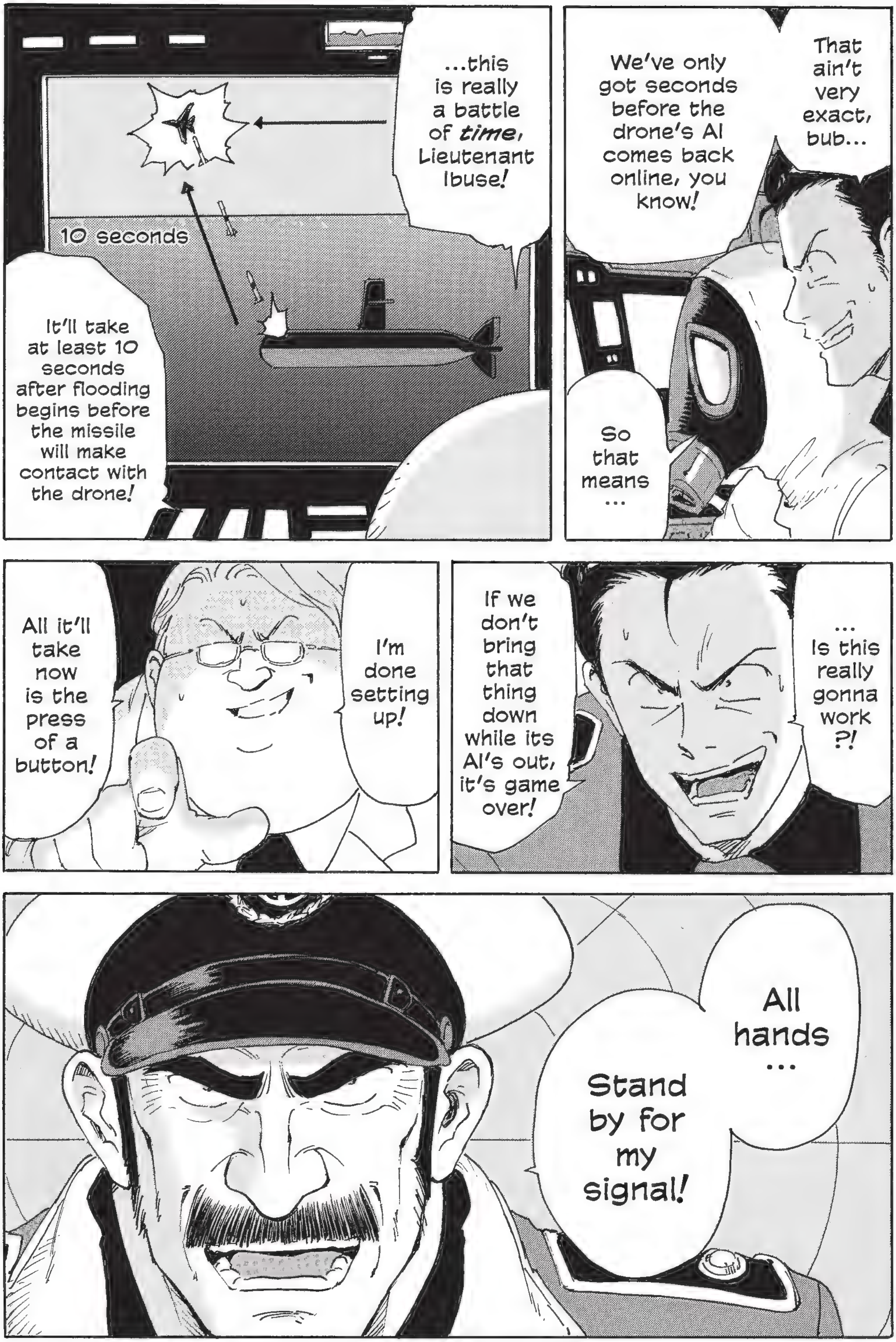

Okay al-ready!
We'll treat her special.
We can only trust...
...in the *Genryu's* success.
ドドド
RA TA TA
Cleanup Crew, move out...!
ドー
BOOM
A-14 END

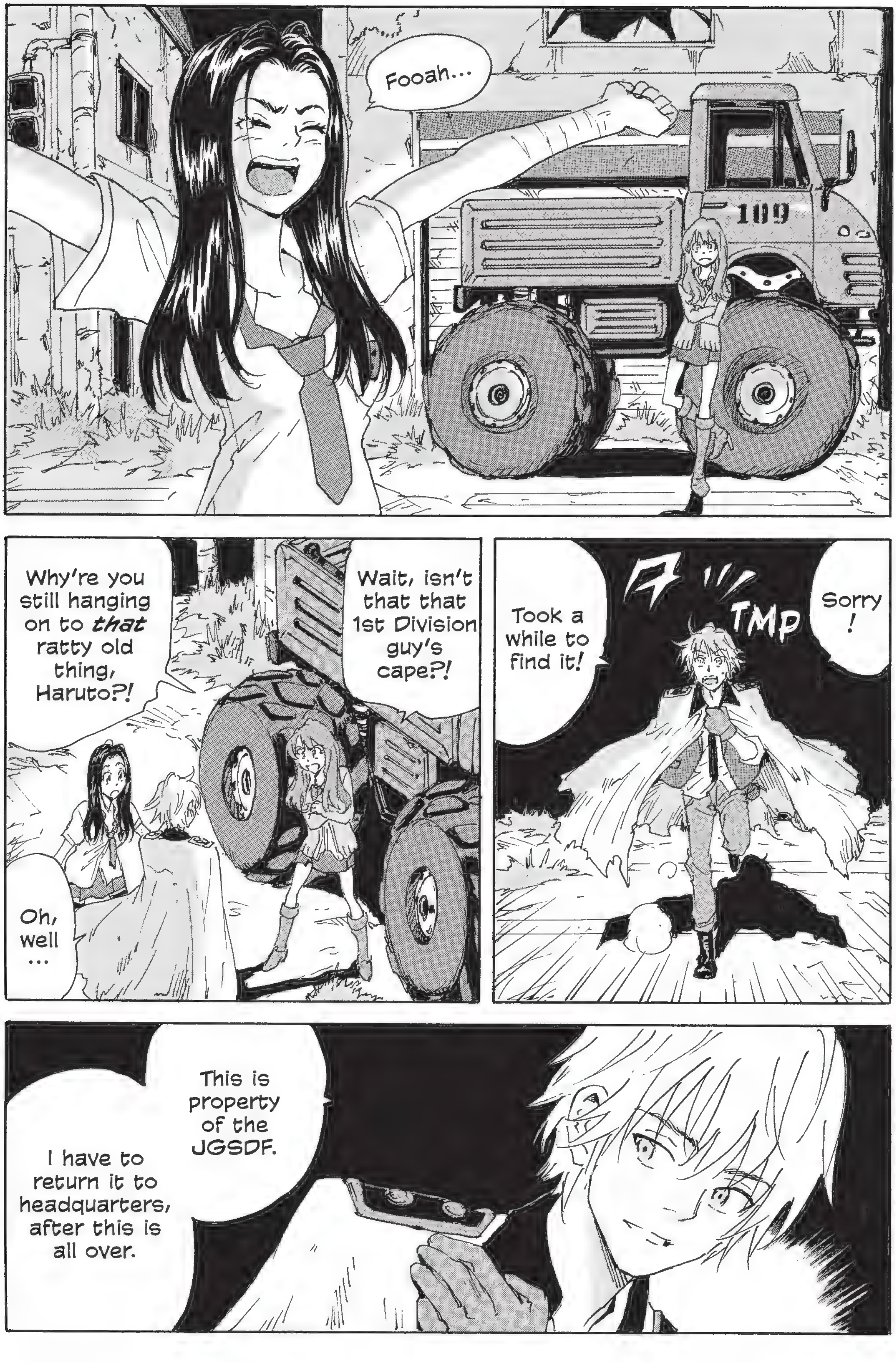
Act.15【Take Down the Black Wings!】

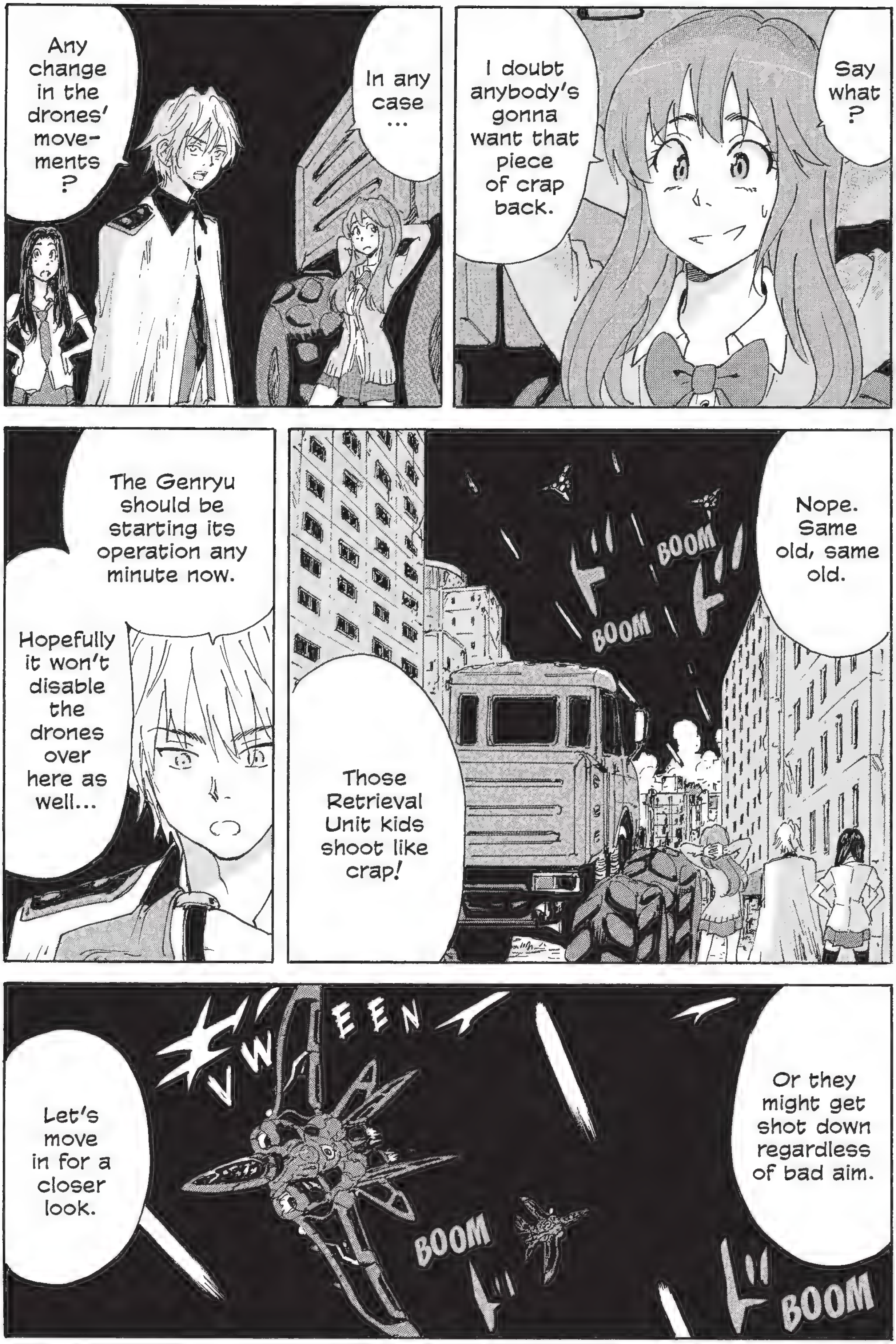

HWAAOOOO
Pacific Ocean, 11:00 PM
BEEP
BEEP
The drone's still circling above us.
If we start the Genryu's engines, it'll pinpoint our location...
...and fire torpedoes at us.

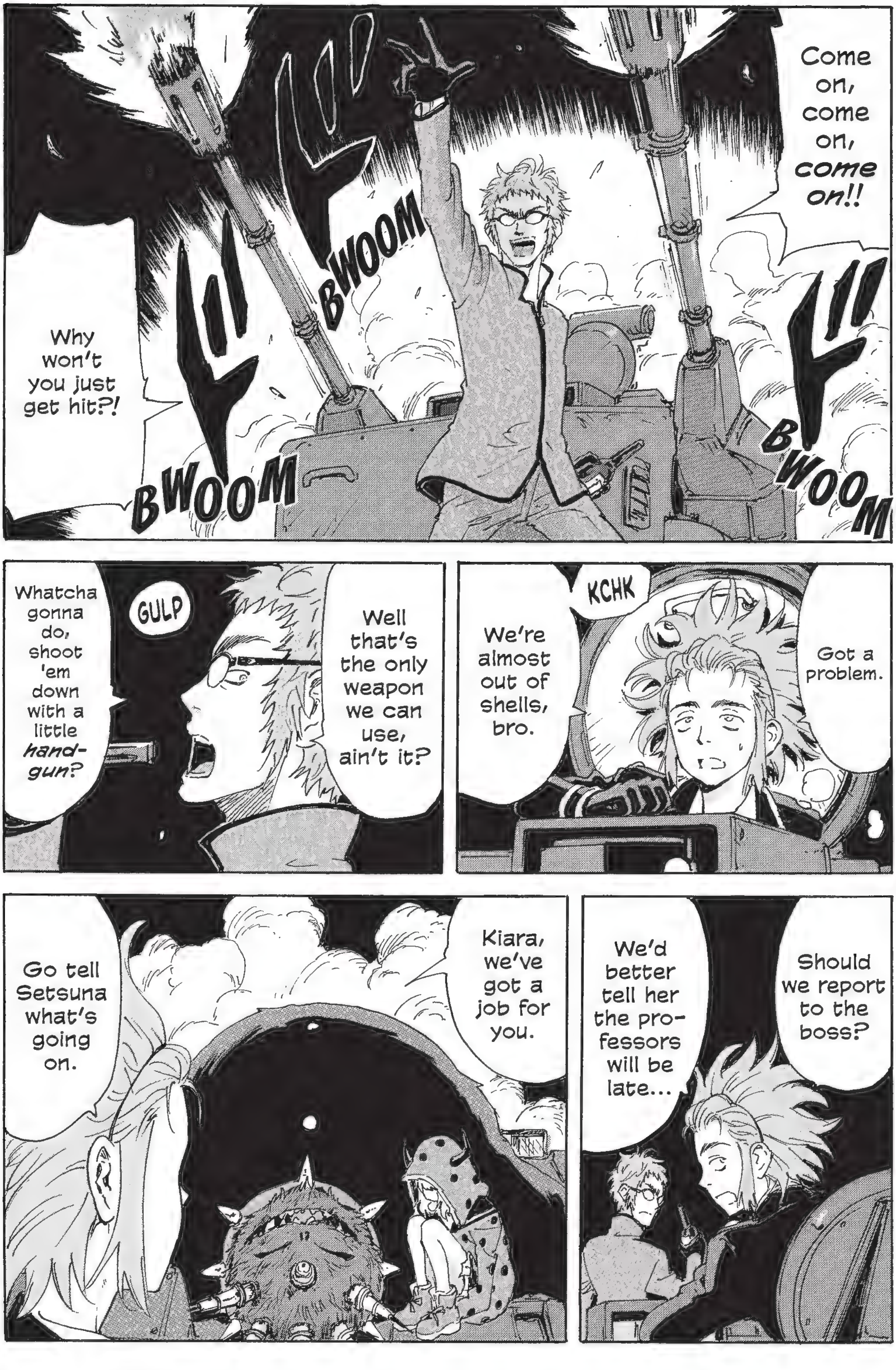

But, Vice Principal ...!
Without the engines running, we can't launch anti-air missiles!
I'm aware of that!
Now listen, all of you...
We only have one chance to get this right.
Should we fail, we'll be sunk.
But we *must* make it to Haneda. The survivors are counting on us to get them out.
Commence the operation!
Glory to the 3rd Division Tokyo Rescue Team!
SWP

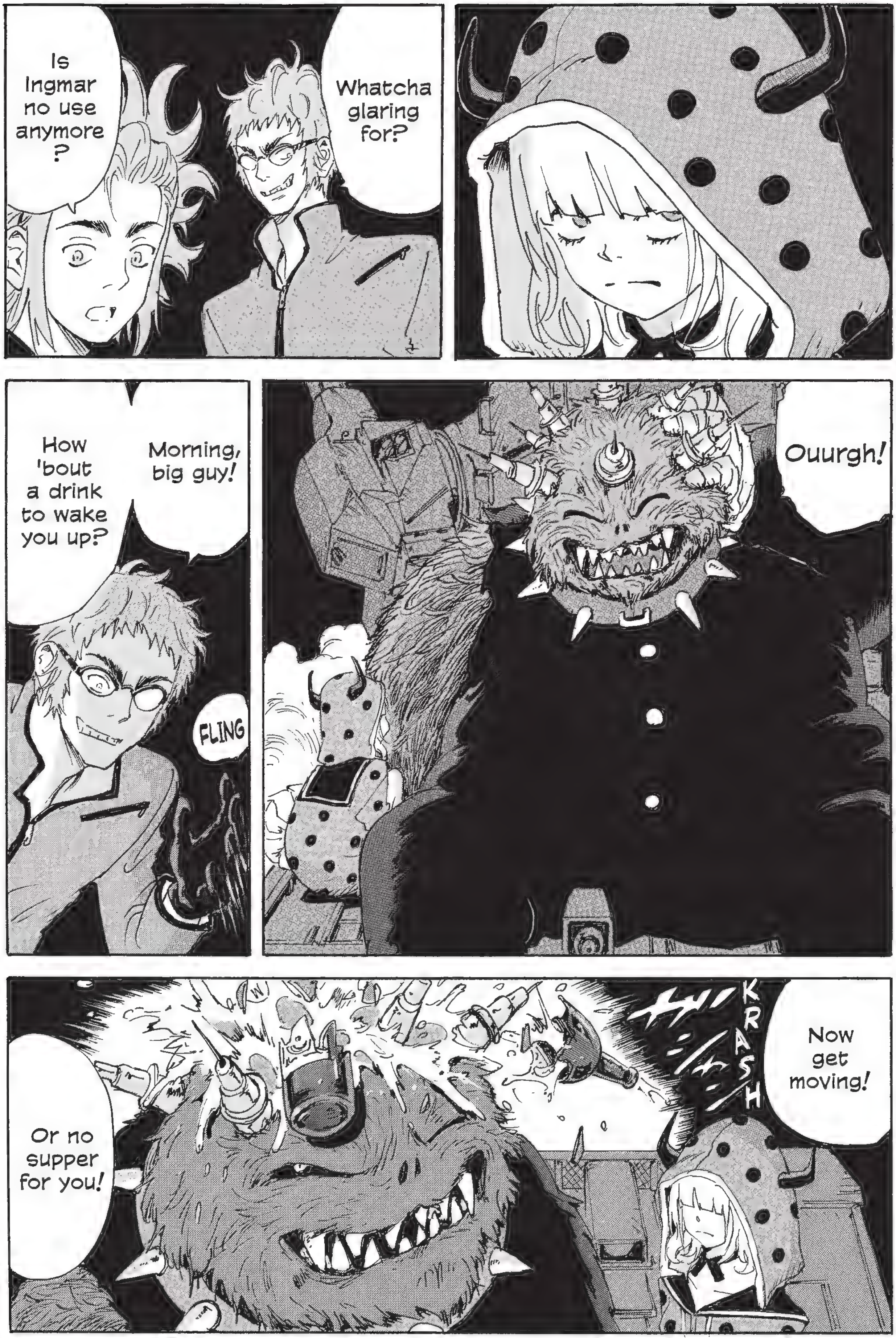

This is Musha-nokoji, in Nagoya!
CLACK
CLACK
I'm hacking the GPS signals over the Pacific coast...
I'll implement the hack over a large range, just in case!
All right! We're counting on you!
After we degrade the GPS signals, the drone will freeze-up while it corrects itself, right?!
When we start the engines, the drone will have to draw closer to us to drop torpedoes ...
That's when we'll degrade the signals and fire.
The drone will have no chance of escape.
This is the missile team!
HRRNG
We're manually loading the missile now!
Don't make a sound, got that?
How long will it take for the launch tube to flood?
PSSH
That depends on our depth...
About five seconds, maybe?

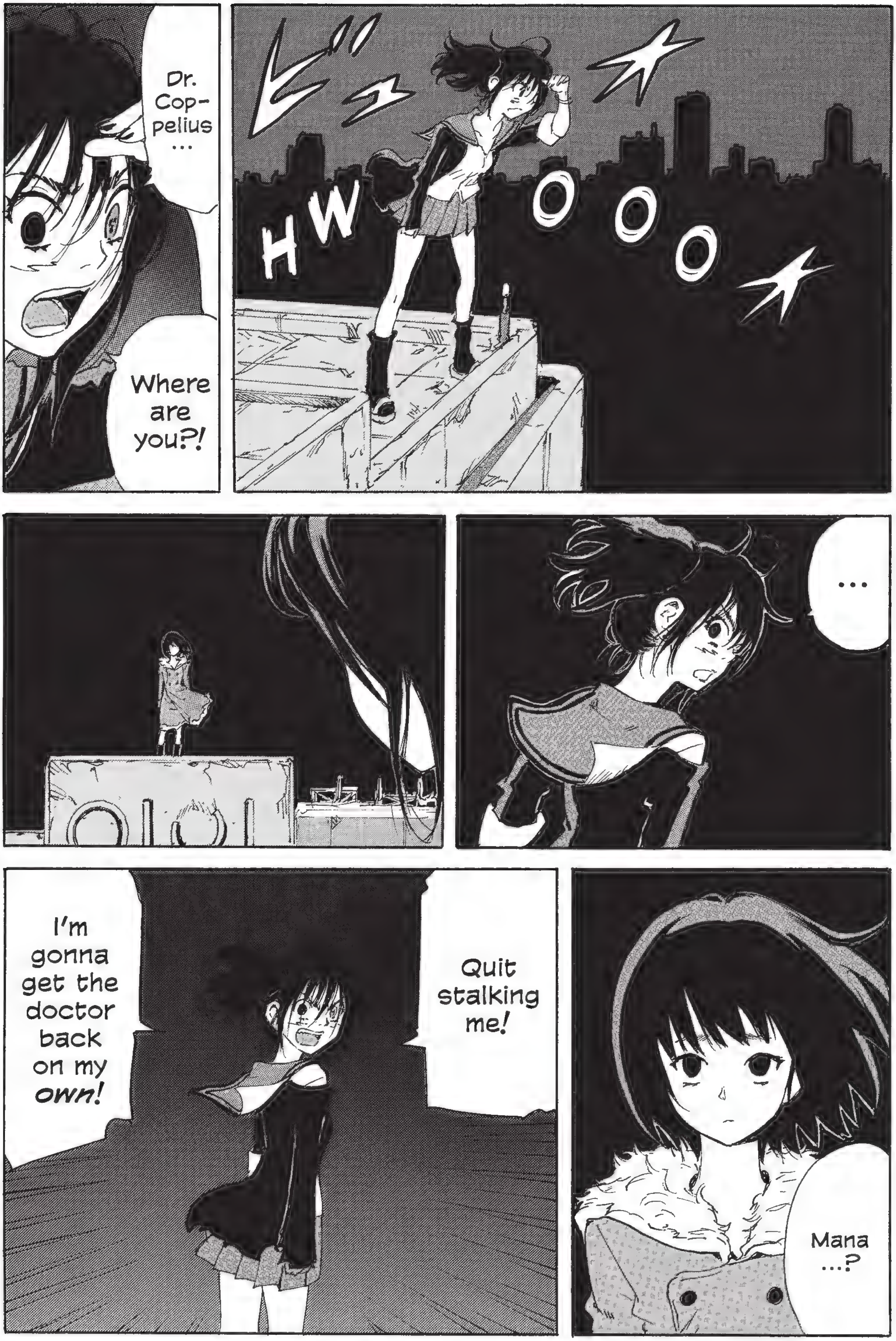

10 seconds
It'll take at least 10 seconds after flooding begins before the missile will make contact with the drone!
...this is really a battle of *time*, Lieutenant Ibuse!
That ain't very exact, bub...
We've only got seconds before the drone's AI comes back online, you know!
So that means...
I'm done setting up!
All it'll take now is the press of a button!
If we don't bring that thing down while its AI's out, it's game over!
...Is this really gonna work?!
All hands...
Stand by for my signal!

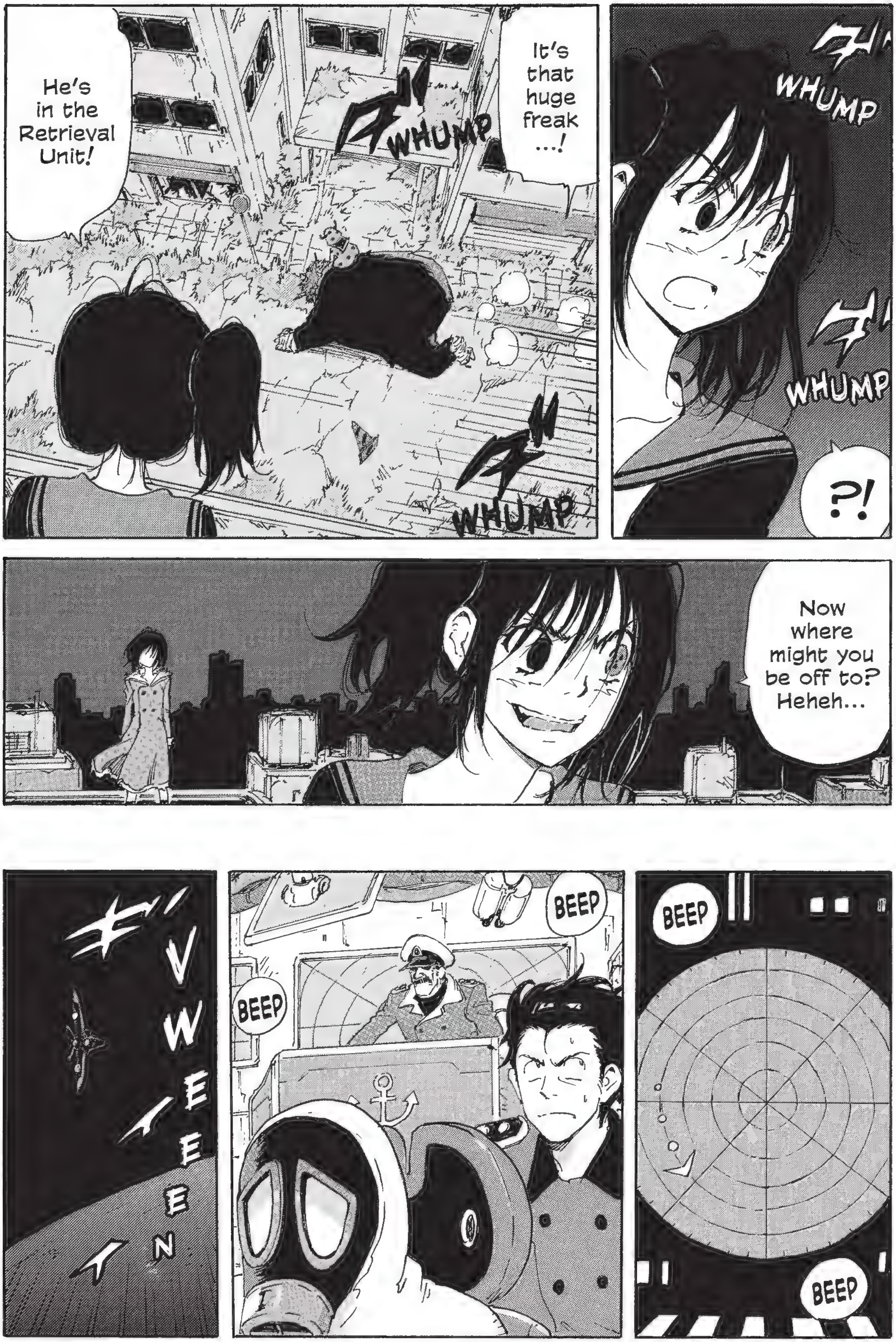

Fooah...
109
Sorry!
TMP
Took a while to find it!
Wait, isn't that that 1st Division guy's cape?!
Why're you still hanging on to *that* ratty old thing, Haruto?!
Oh, well...
This is property of the JGSDF.
I have to return it to headquarters, after this is all over.

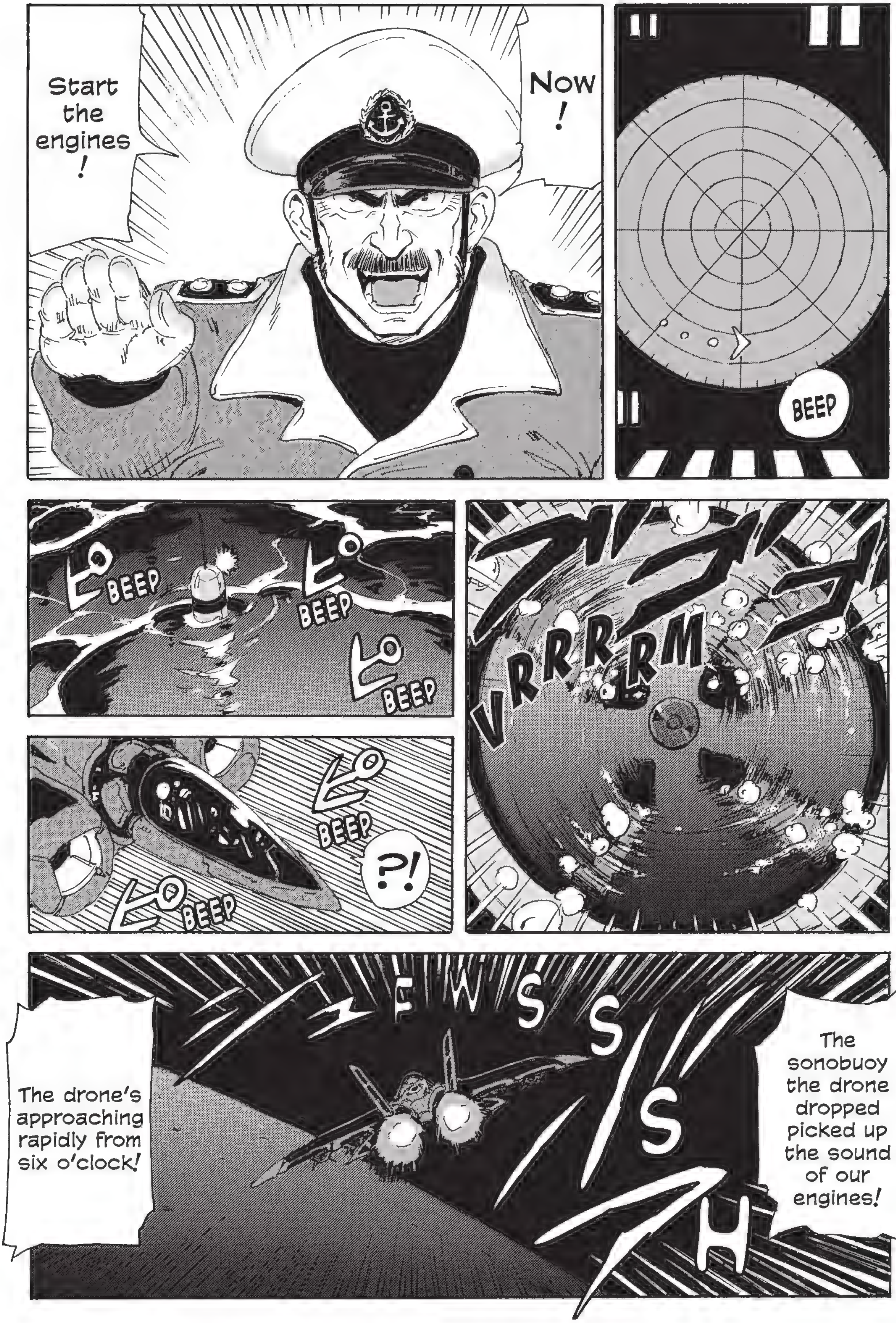

Say what?
I doubt anybody's gonna want that piece of crap back.
In any case...
Any change in the drones' movements?
Nope. Same old, same old.
BOOM
BOOM
Those Retrieval Unit kids shoot like crap!
The Genryu should be starting its operation any minute now.
Hopefully it won't disable the drones over here as well...
Or they might get shot down regardless of bad aim.
VWEEN
BOOM
BOOM
Let's move in for a closer look.

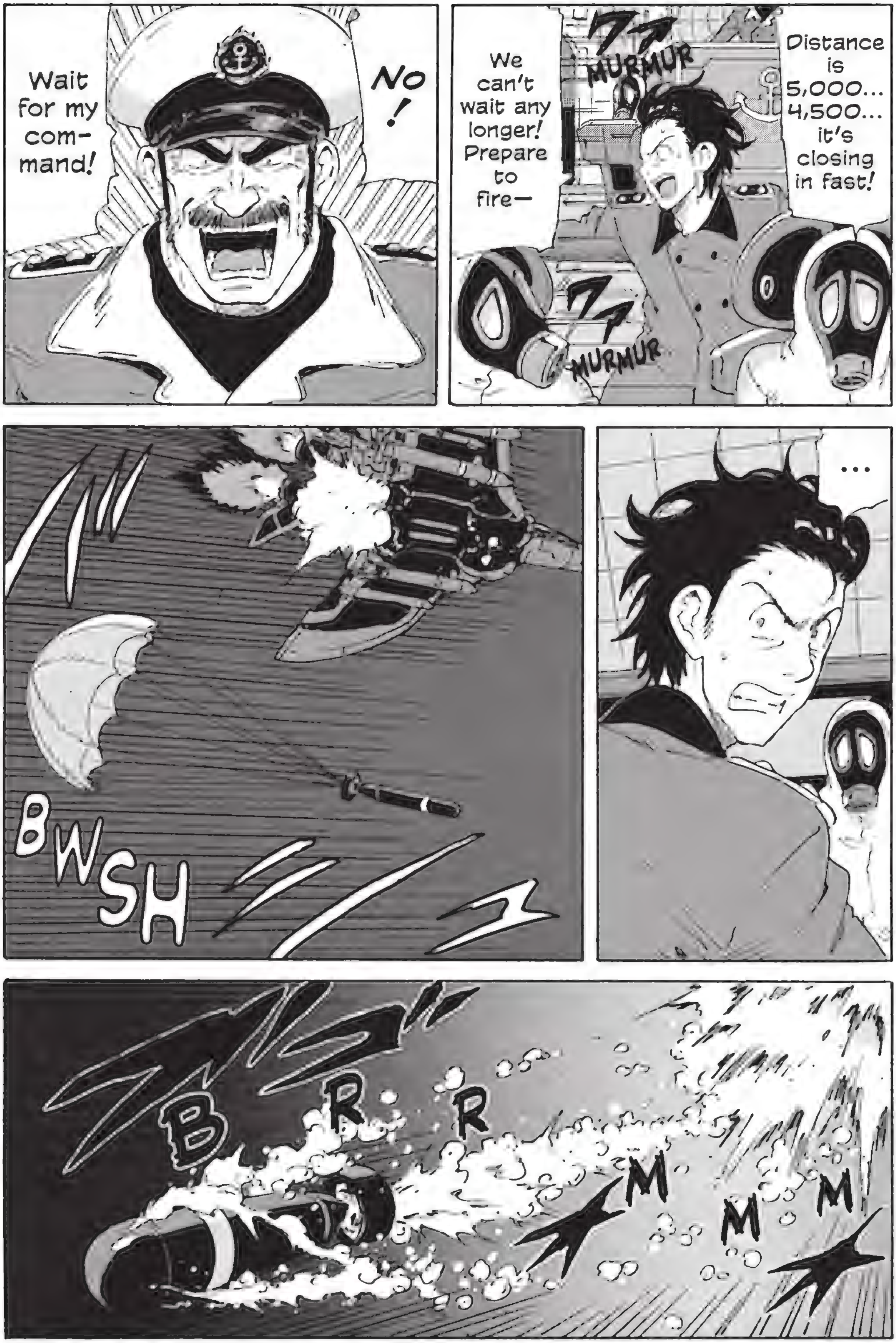

Come on, come on, come on!!
BWOOM
BWOOM
Why won't you just get hit?!
BWOOM
Got a problem.
KCHK
We're almost out of shells, bro.
Well that's the only weapon we can use, ain't it?
GULP
Whatcha gonna do, shoot 'em down with a little handgun?
Should we report to the boss?
We'd better tell her the professors will be late...
Kiara, we've got a job for you.
Go tell Setsuna what's going on.

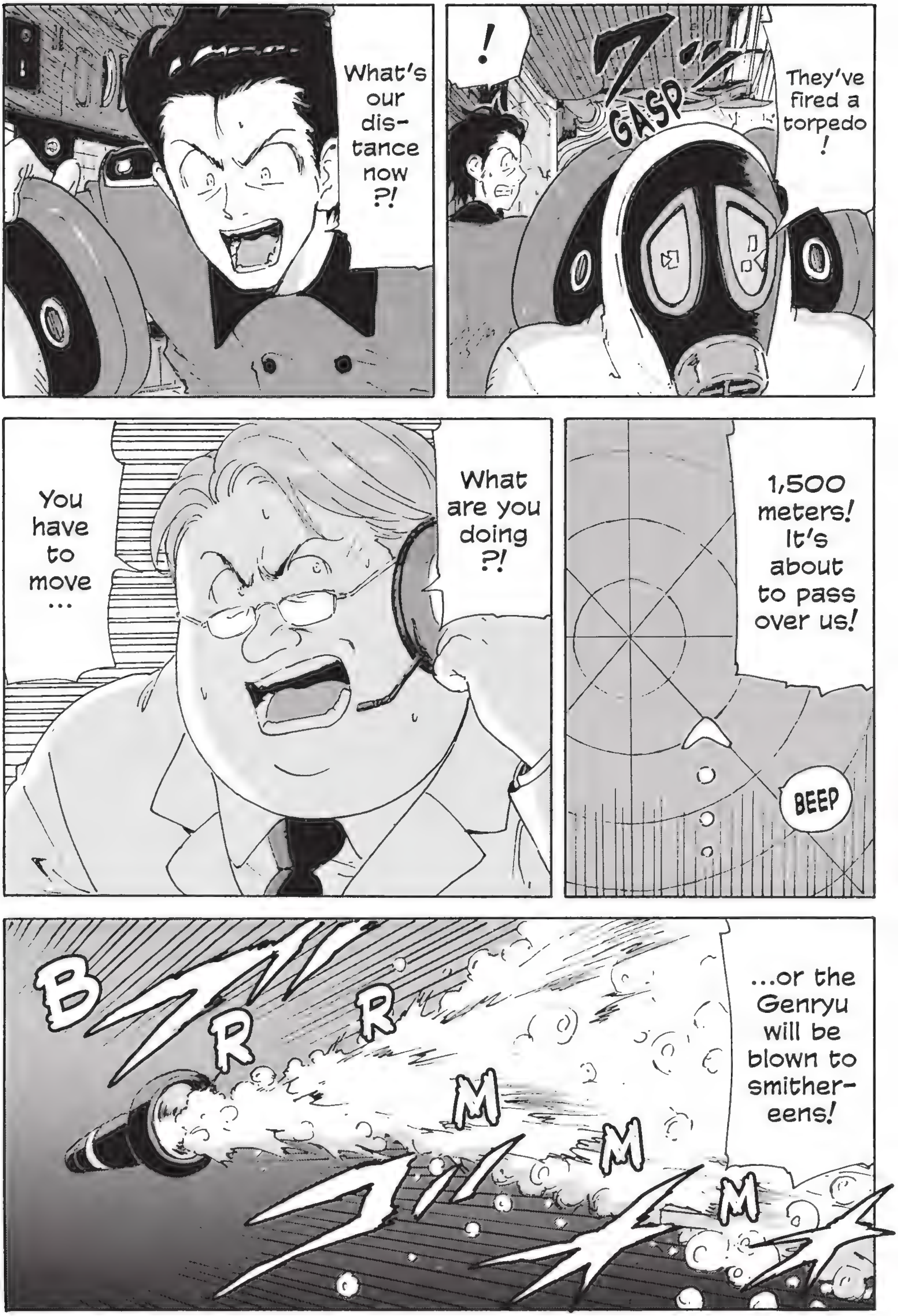

Whatcha glaring for?
Is Ingmar no use anymore?
Ouurgh!
Morning, big guy!
How 'bout a drink to wake you up?
FLING
KRASH
Now get moving!
Or no supper for you!

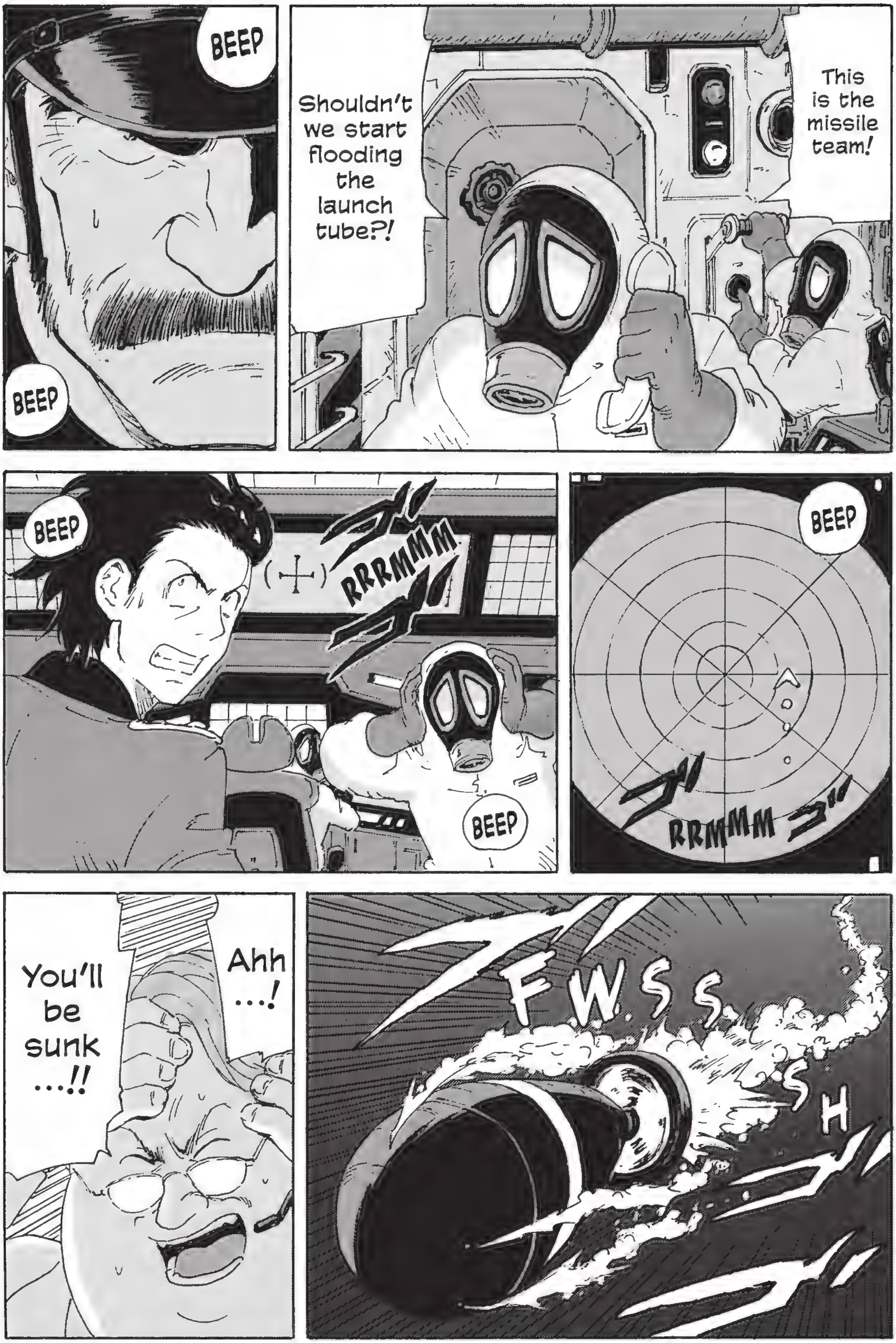

Dr. Coppelius...
Where are you?!
ビュオオ
HWOOOO
...
I'm gonna get the doctor back on my *own*!
Quit stalking me!
Mana ...?

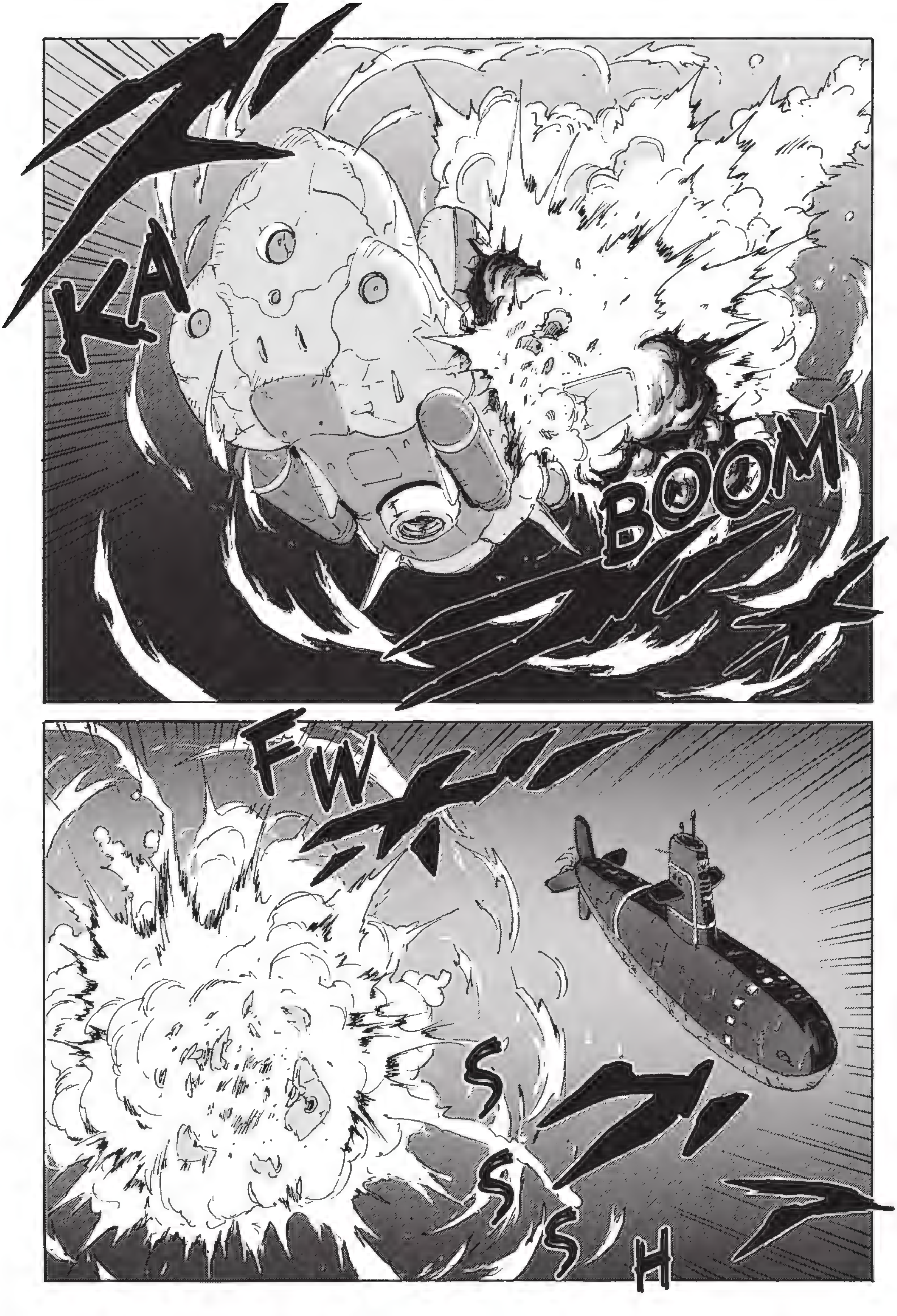

WHUMP
WHUMP
?!
It's that huge freak...!
WHUMP
He's in the Retrieval Unit!
WHUMP
Now where might you be off to? Heheh...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
WEEEN

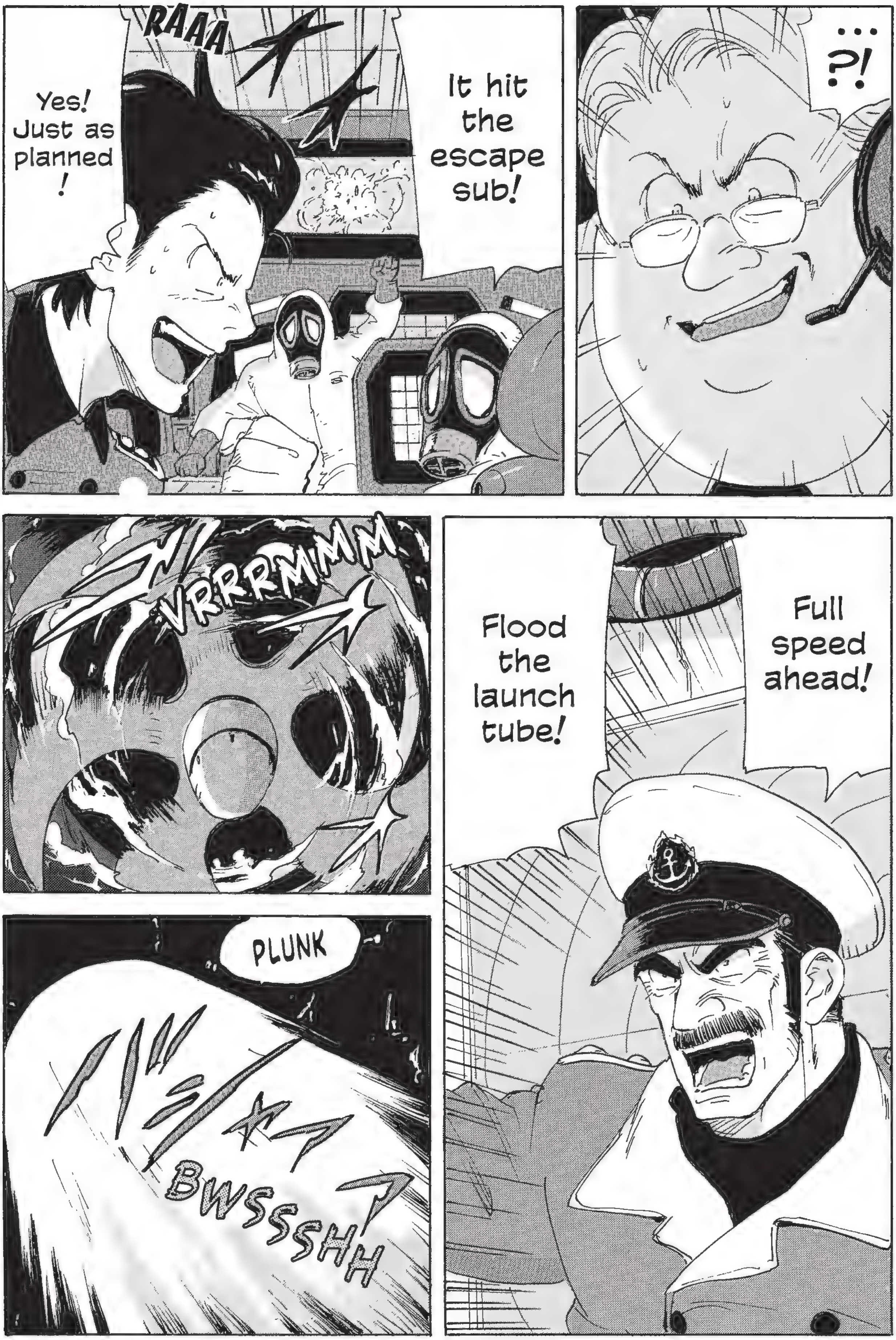

Now!
Start the engines!
BEEP
ブーン
VRRRRM
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
?!
FWSSSSH
The sonobuoy the drone dropped picked up the sound of our engines!
The drone's approaching rapidly from six o'clock!

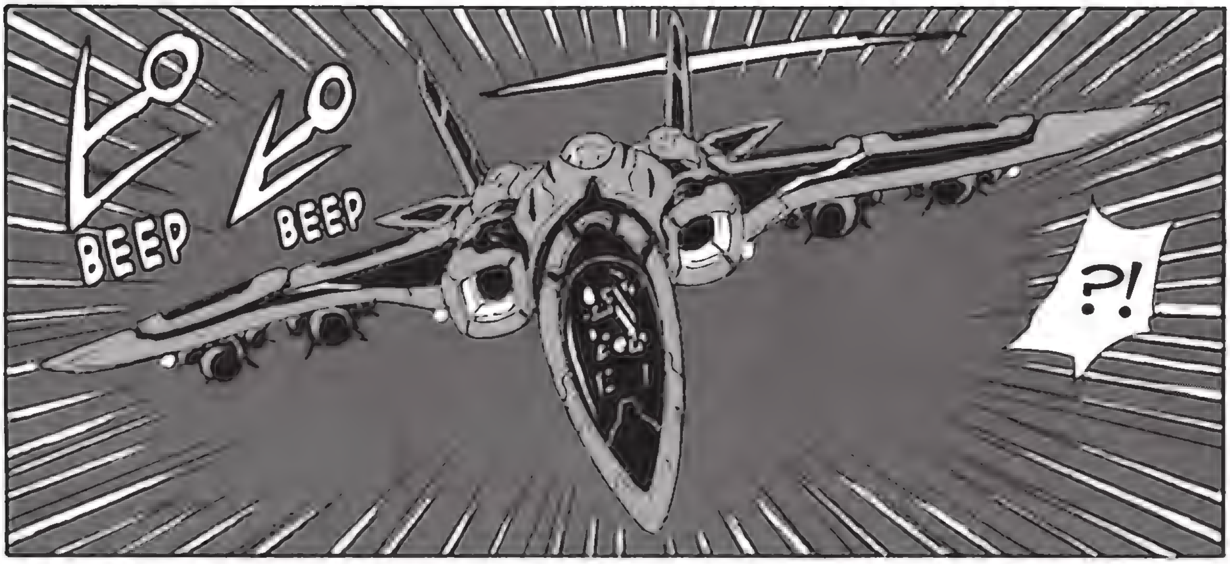

Distance is 5,000... 4,500... it's closing in fast!
We can't wait any longer! Prepare to fire—
MURMUR
MURMUR
NO!
Wait for my command!
...
BWSH
BRRMMM

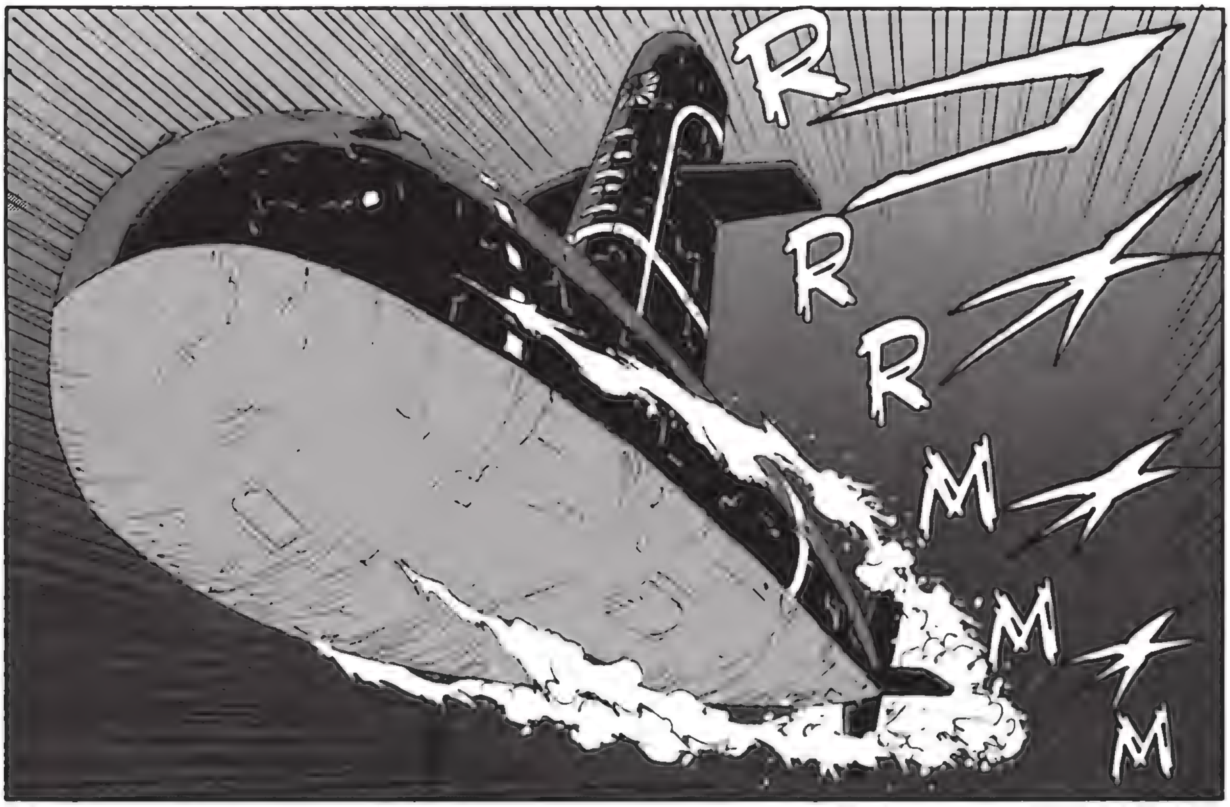

!
GASP
They've fired a torpedo!
What's our distance now?!
BEEP
1,500 meters! It's about to pass over us!
What are you doing?!
You have to move...
...or the Genryu will be blown to smithereens!
BRRRMMM

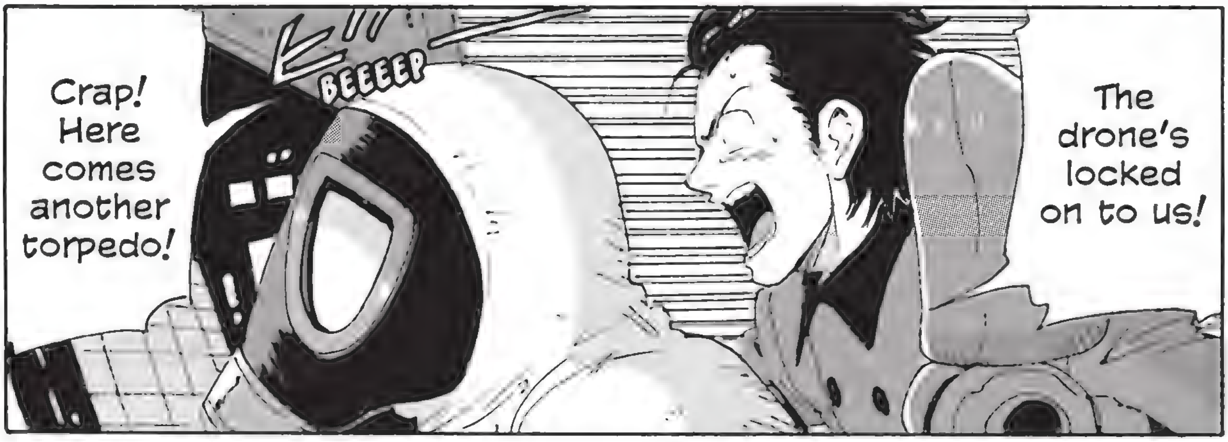

This is the missile team!
Shouldn't we start flooding the launch tube?!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
RRMMMM
BEEP
RRRMMMM
BEEP
FWSSSH
Ahh …!
You'll be sunk …!!

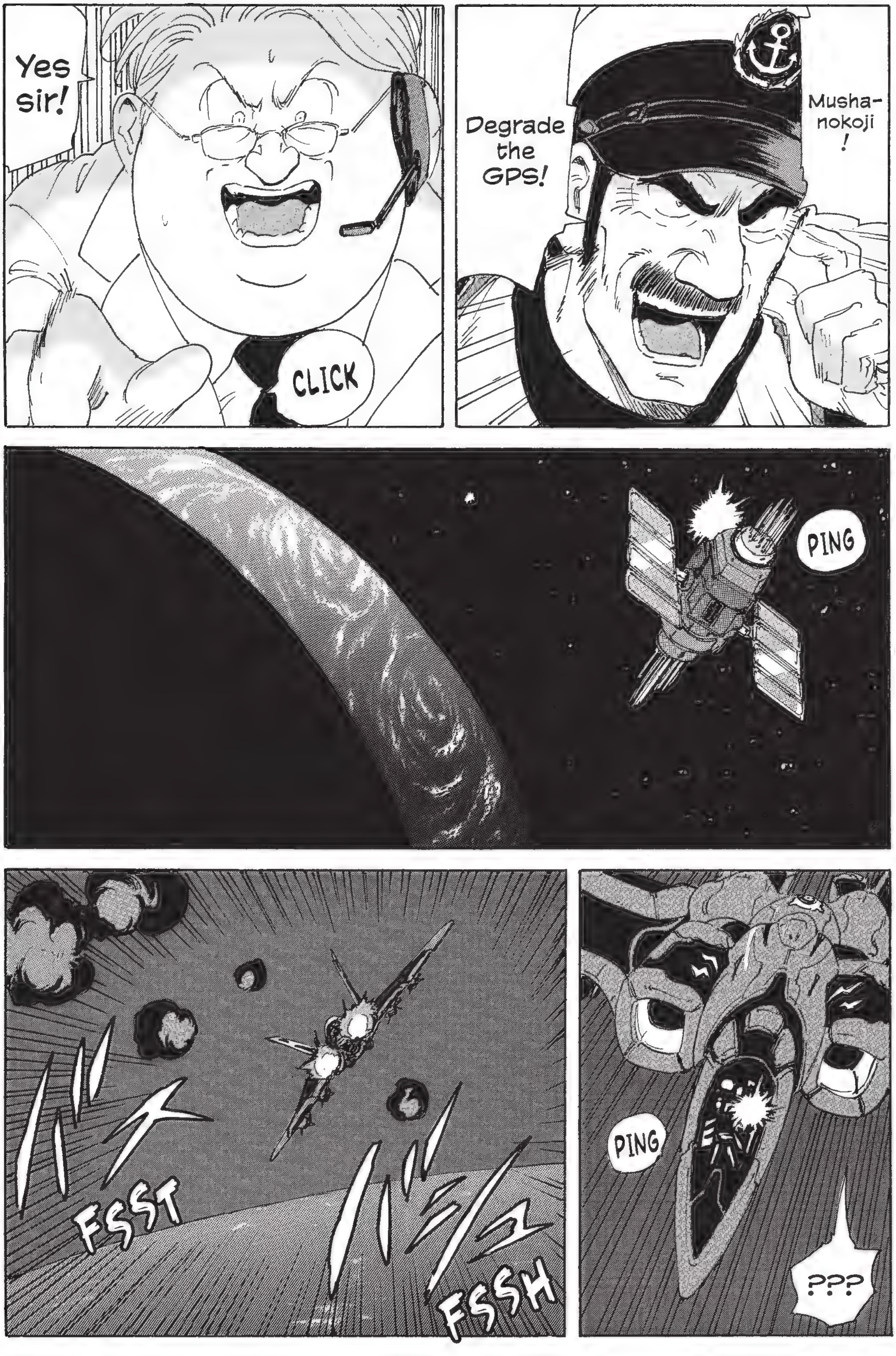

KA
BOOM
FW
SSSH

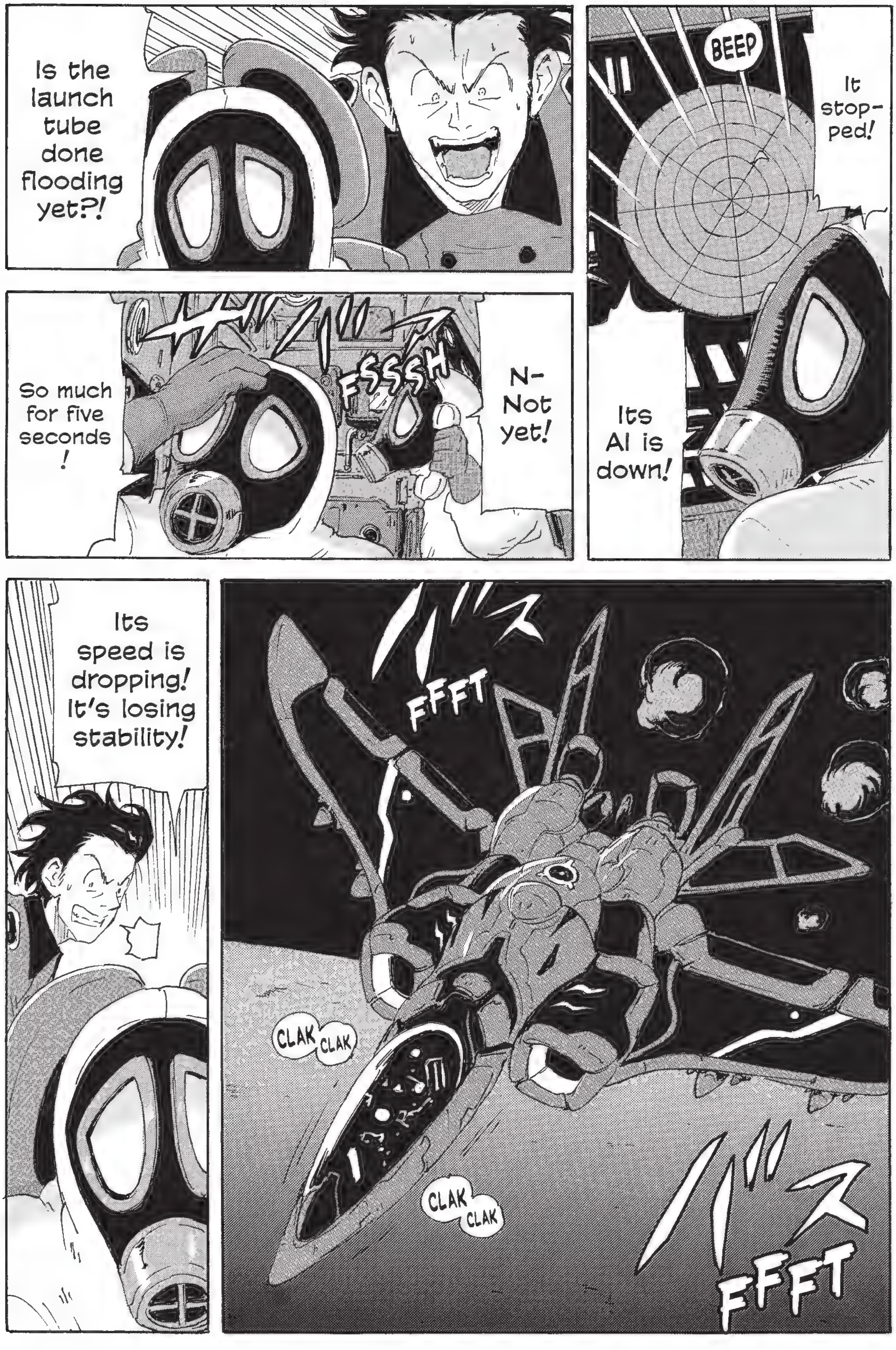

...?!
It hit the escape sub!
Yes! Just as planned!
RAAA
Full speed ahead!
Flood the launch tube!
VRRRMMM
PLUNK
BWSSSHH

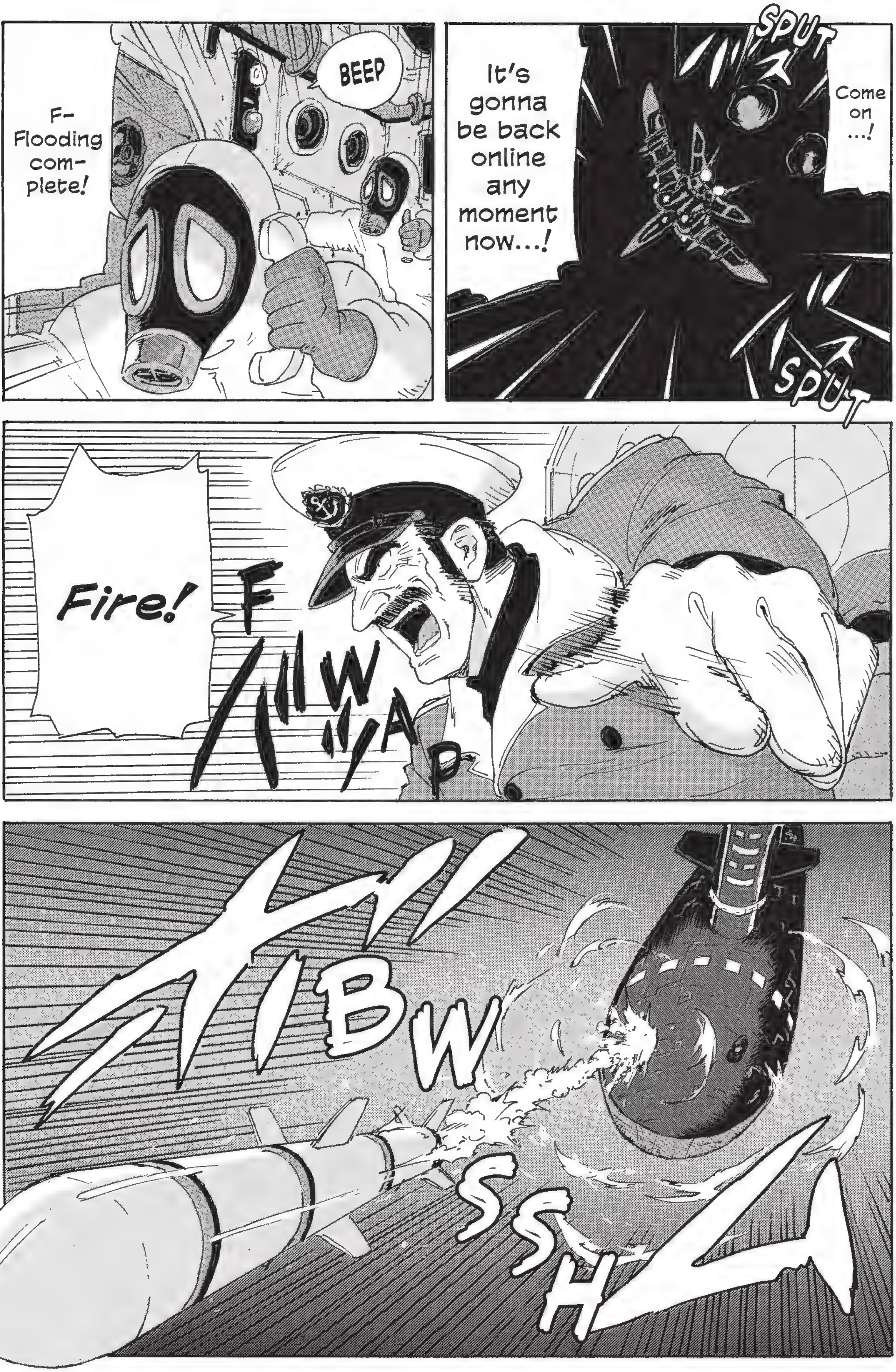

?!
BEEP
BEEP

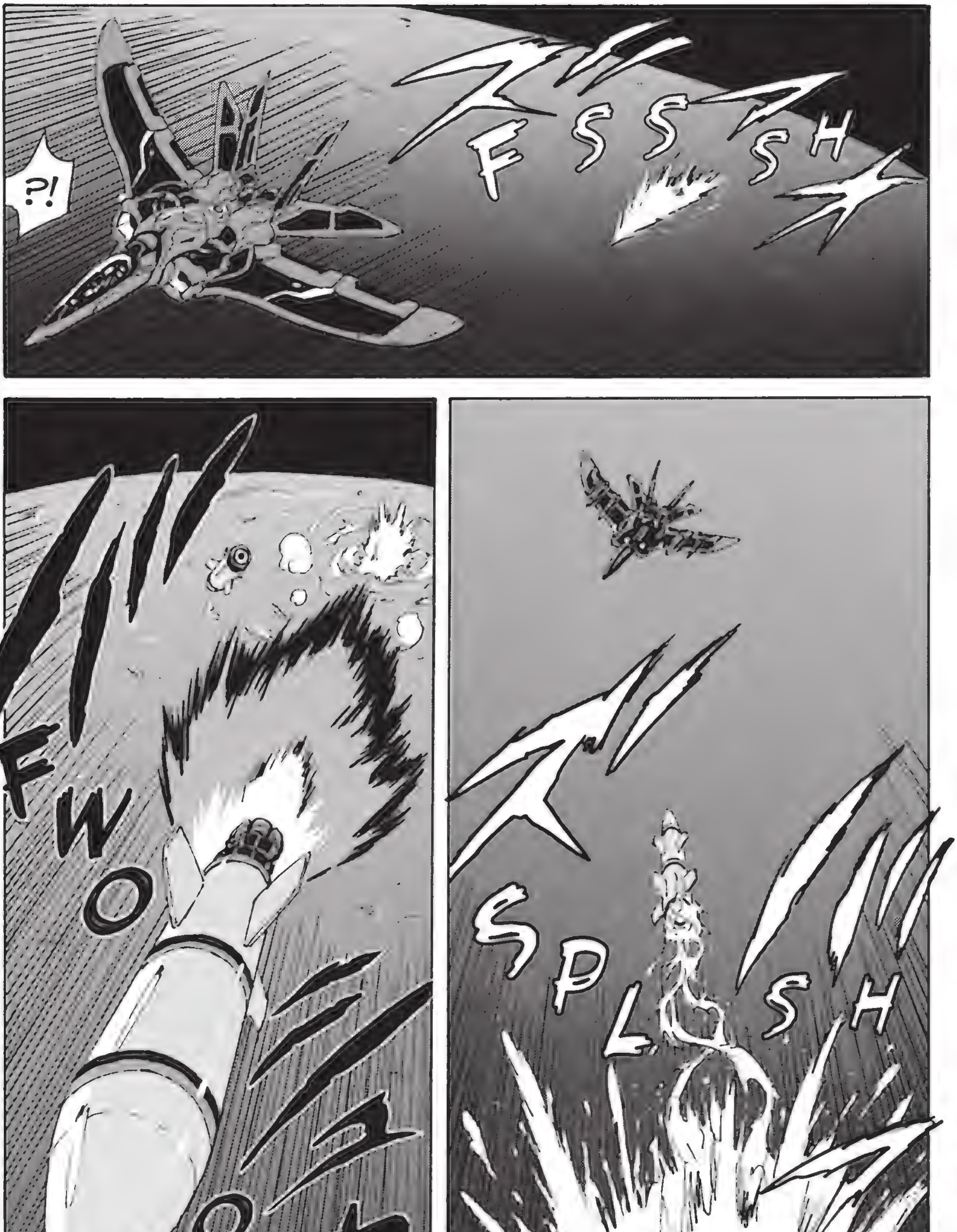

RRRRMMMM

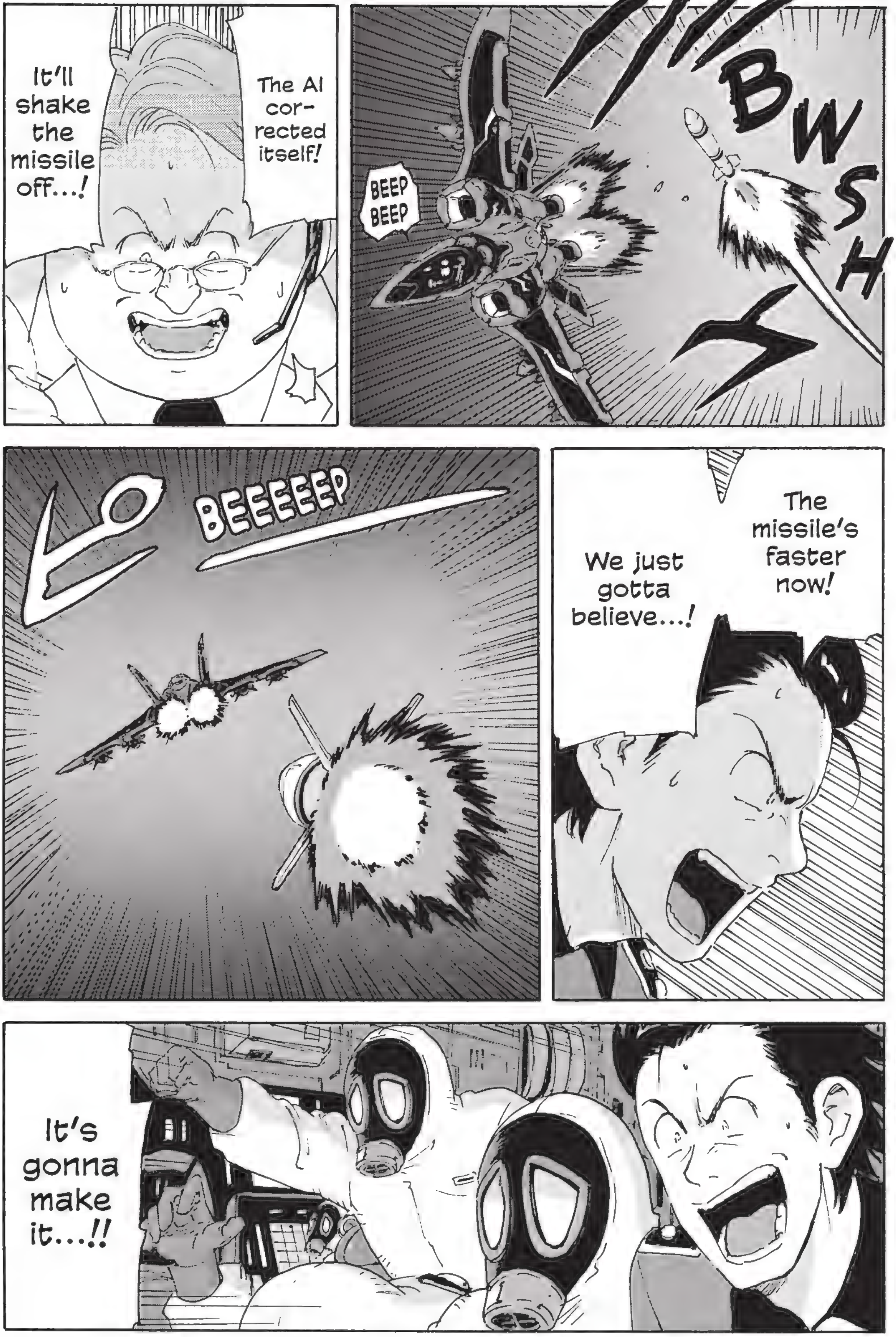

The drone's locked on to us!
BEEEEP
Crap! Here comes another torpedo!

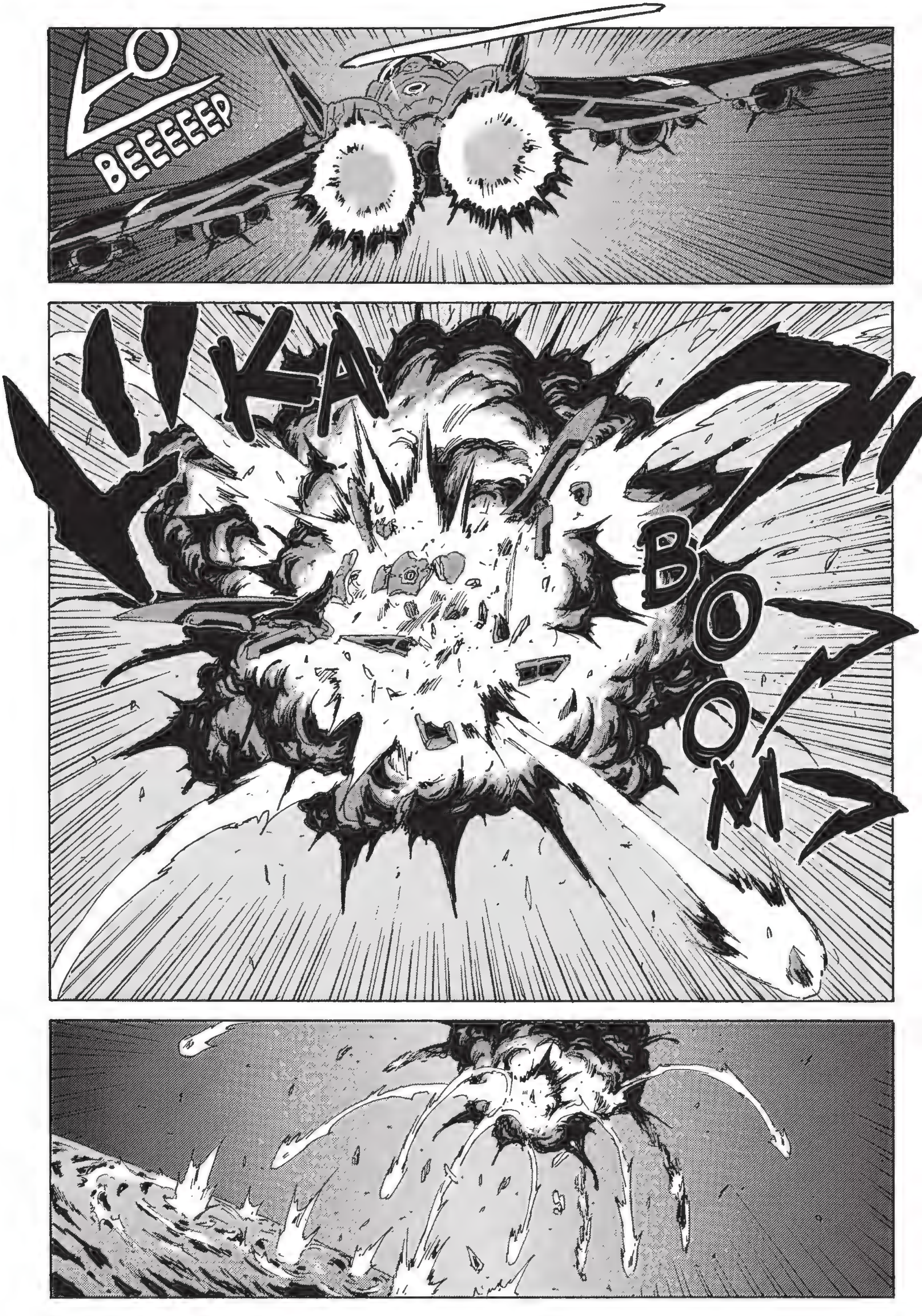

Musha-nokoji!
Degrade the GPS!
Yes sir!
CLICK
PING
PING
???
FSST
FSSH

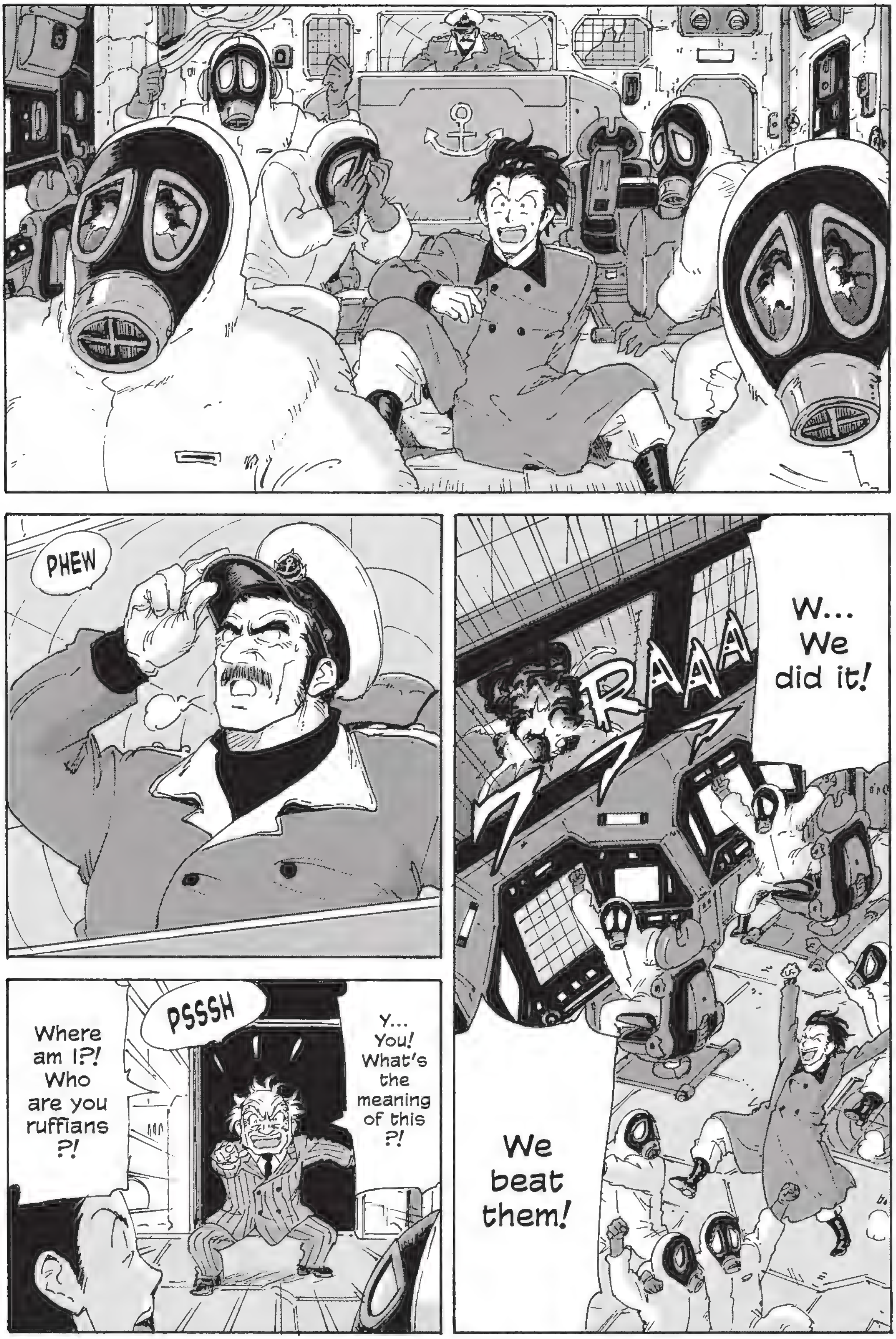

BEEP
It stopped!
Its AI is down!
Is the launch tube done flooding yet?!
N-Not yet!
FSSSH
So much for five seconds!
バス
FFFT
CLAK CLAK
CLAK CLAK
バス
FFFT
Its speed is dropping! It's losing stability!

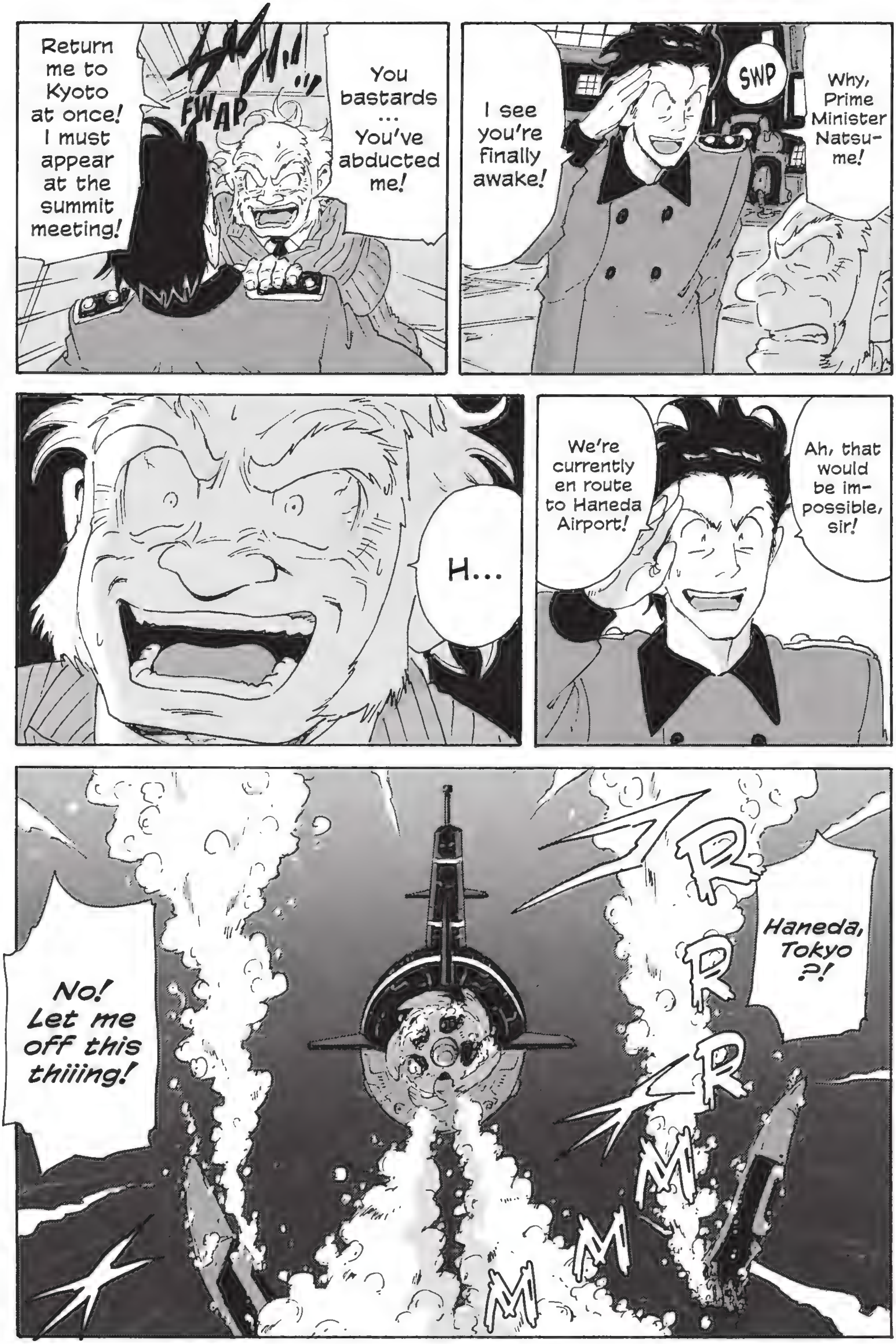

Come on ...!
SPUT
It's gonna be back online any moment now...!
SPUT
BEEP
F- Flooding com- plete!
Fire!
FWAP
BWSSH

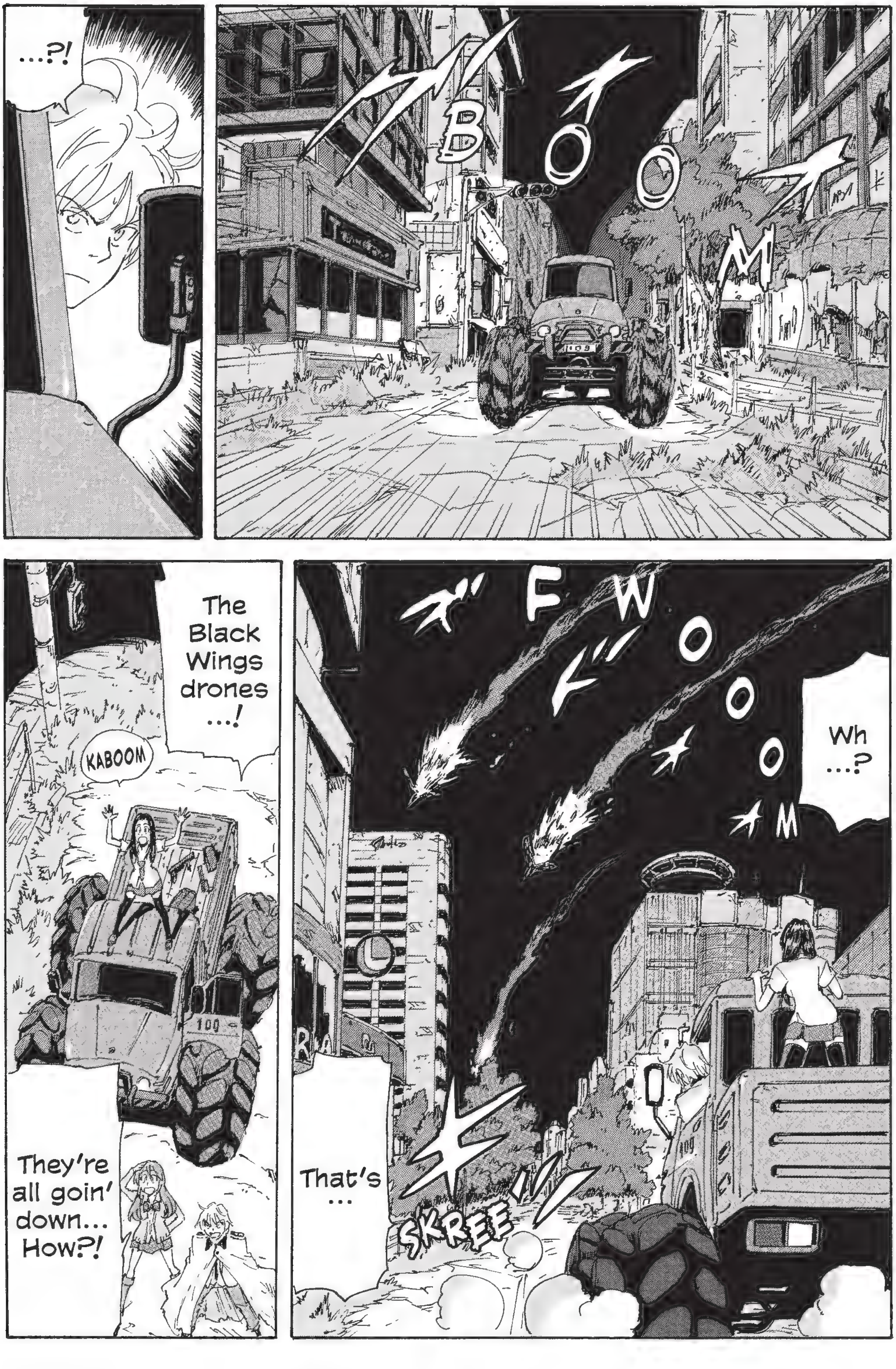

FSSSH
?!
SPLSH
FWOOSH

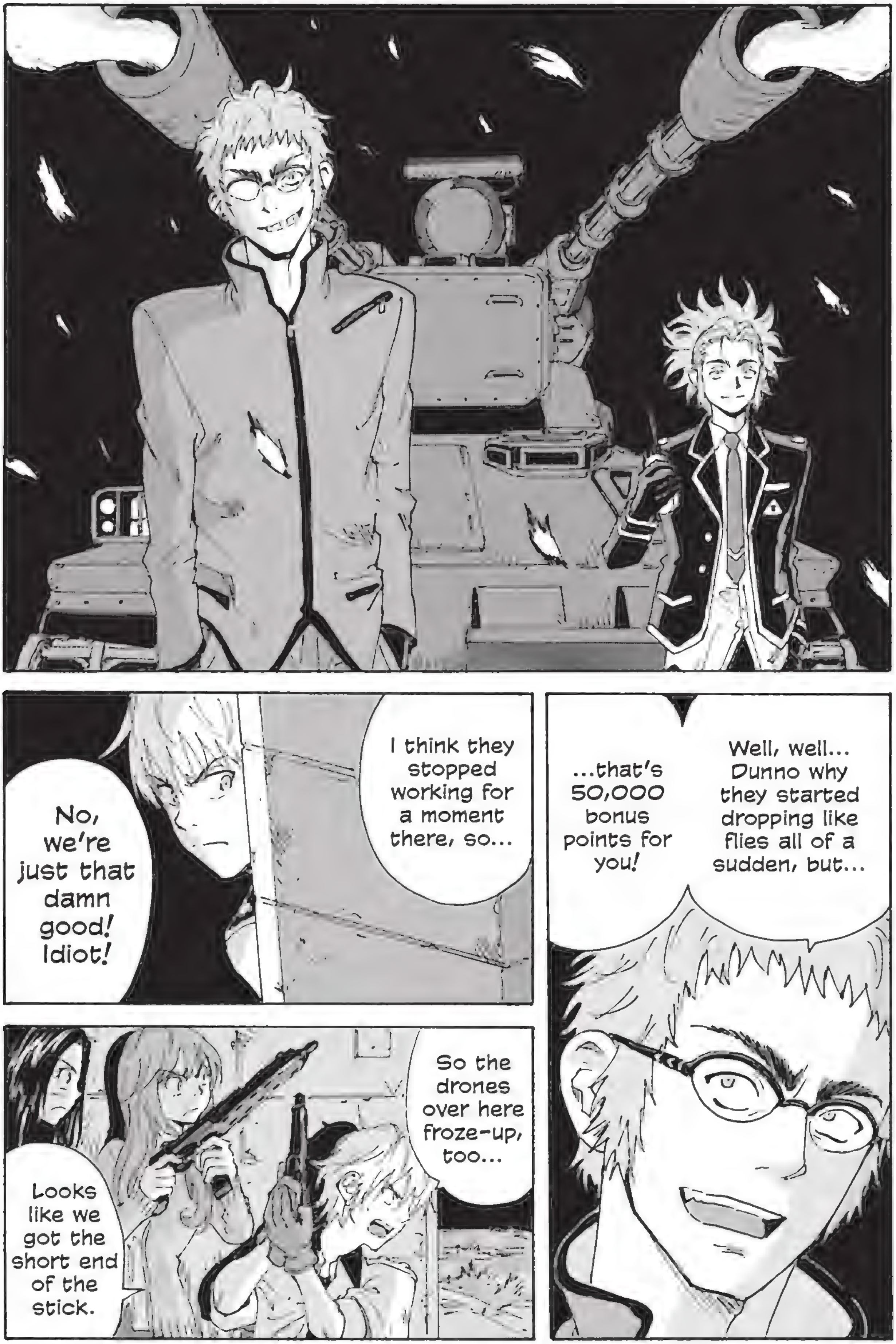

BWSH
BEEP BEEP
The AI corrected itself!
It'll shake the missile off...!
The missile's faster now!
We just gotta believe...!
BEEEEEP
It's gonna make it...!!

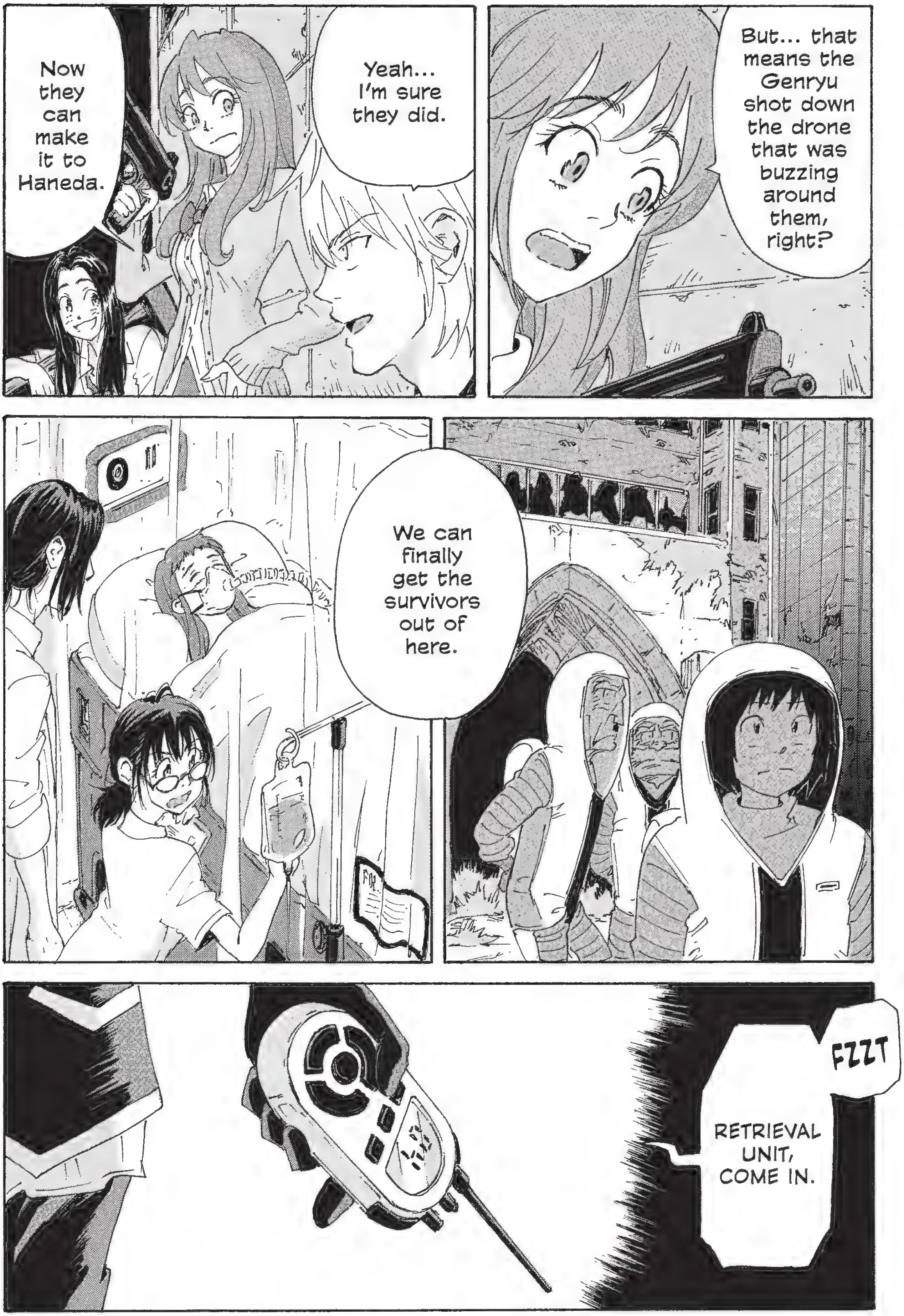

BEEEEEP
KA
BOOM!

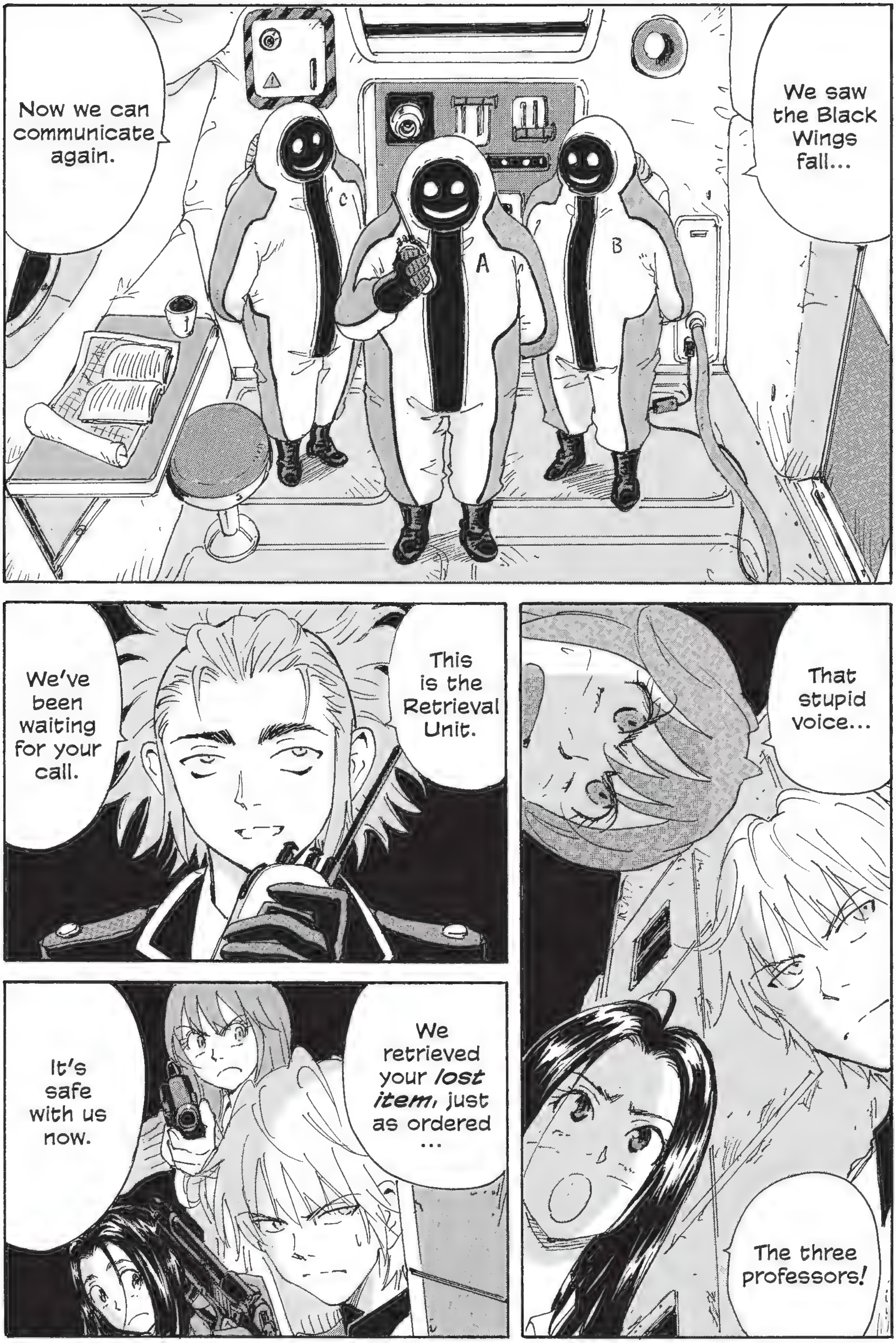

RAAA
W... We did it!
We beat them!
PHEW
Y... You! What's the meaning of this?!
PSSSH
Where am I?! Who are you ruffians?!

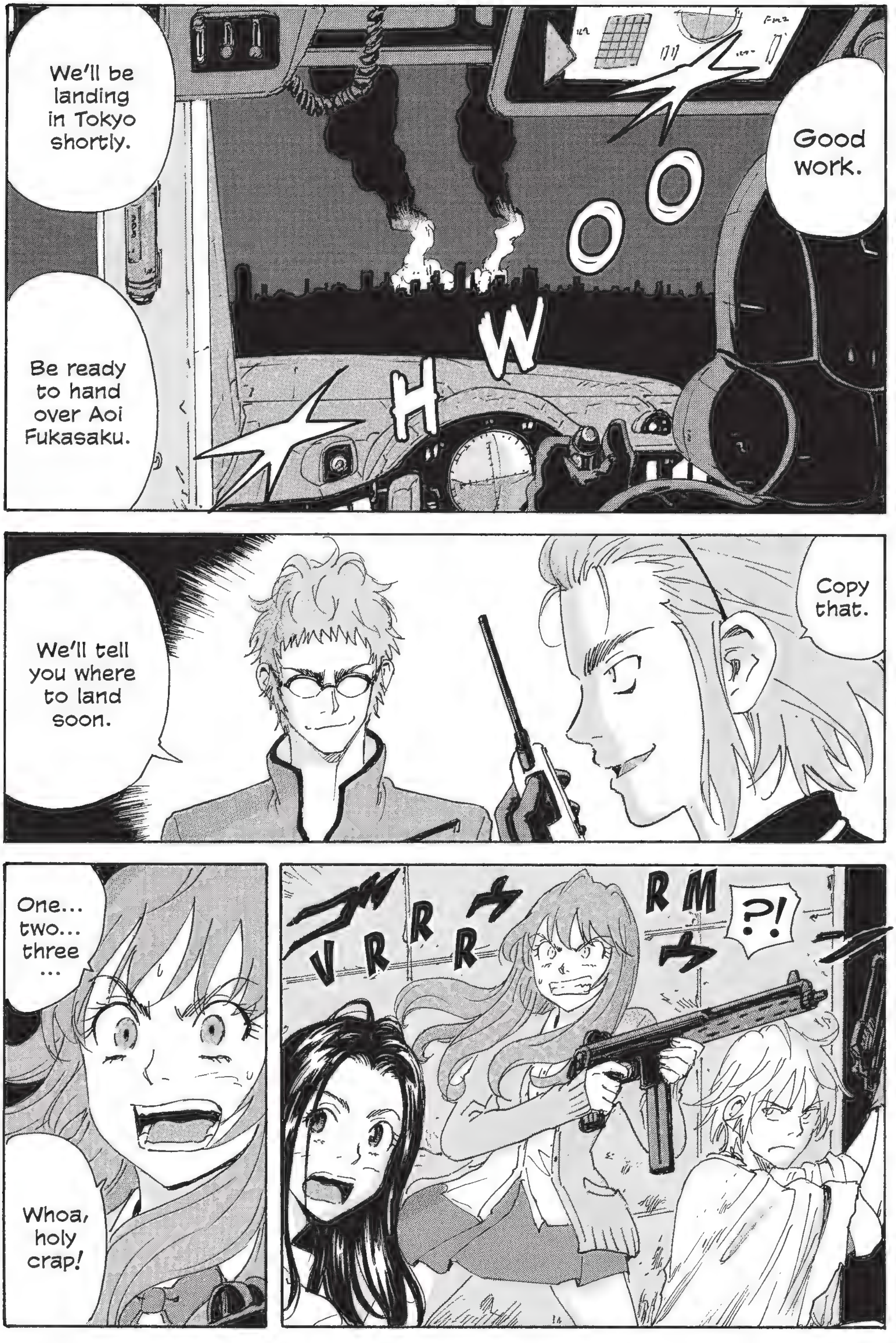

Why, Prime Minister Natsume!
SWP
I see you're finally awake!
You bastards... You've abducted me!
FWAP
Return me to Kyoto at once! I must appear at the summit meeting!
Ah, that would be impossible, sir!
We're currently en route to Haneda Airport!
H...
Haneda, Tokyo?!
RRRMMMM
No! Let me off this thiiing!

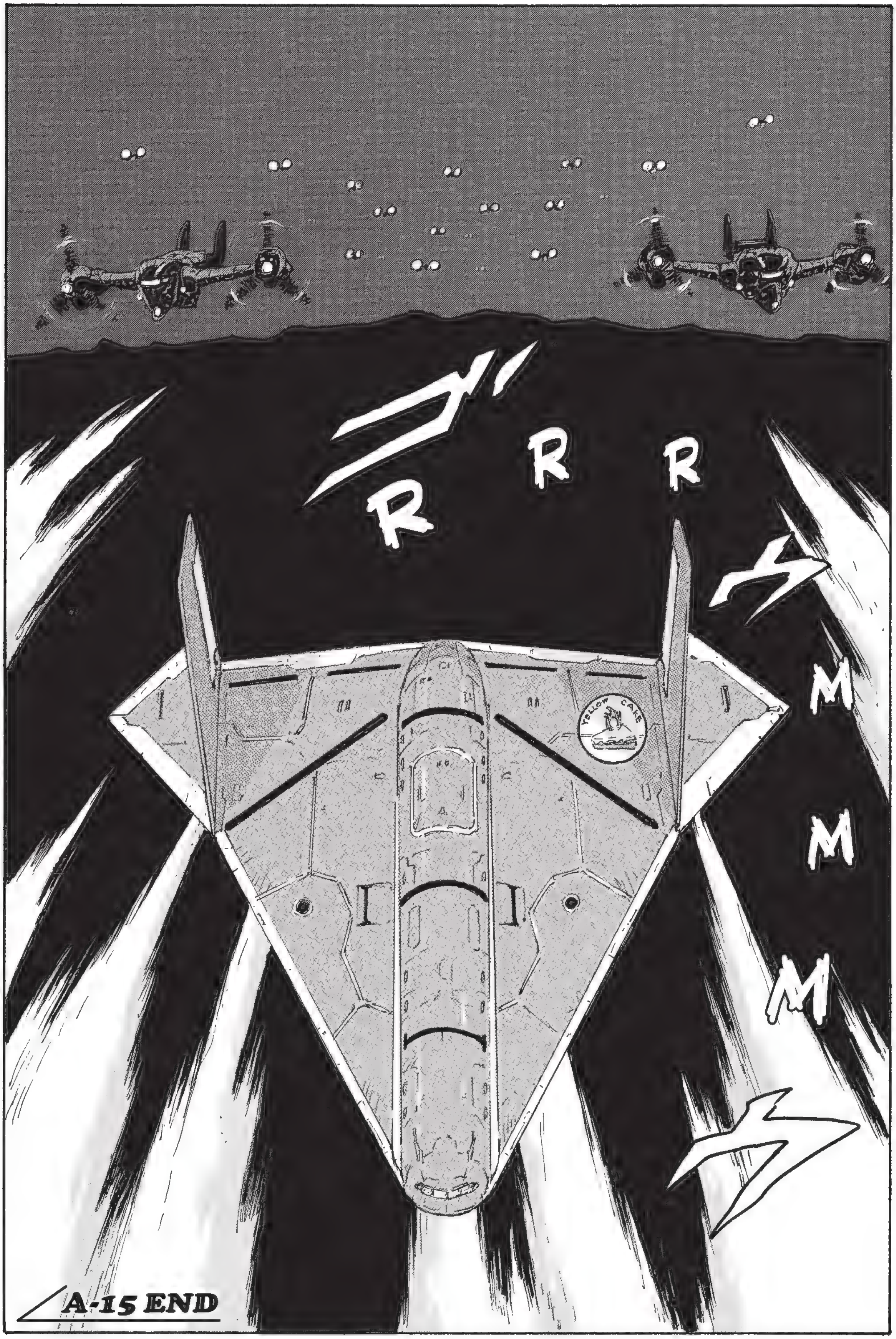

BOOOM
...?!
Wh ...?
FWOOOOM
That's ...
SKREE
The Black Wings drones ...!
KABOOM
They're all goin' down... How?!


Well, well... Dunno why they started dropping like flies all of a sudden, but...
...that's 50,000 bonus points for you!
I think they stopped working for a moment there, so...
No, we're just that damn good! Idiot!
So the drones over here froze-up, too...
Looks like we got the short end of the stick.


Now they can make it to Haneda.
Yeah... I'm sure they did.
But... that means the Genryu shot down the drone that was buzzing around them, right?
We can finally get the survivors out of here.
FZZT
RETRIEVAL UNIT, COME IN.

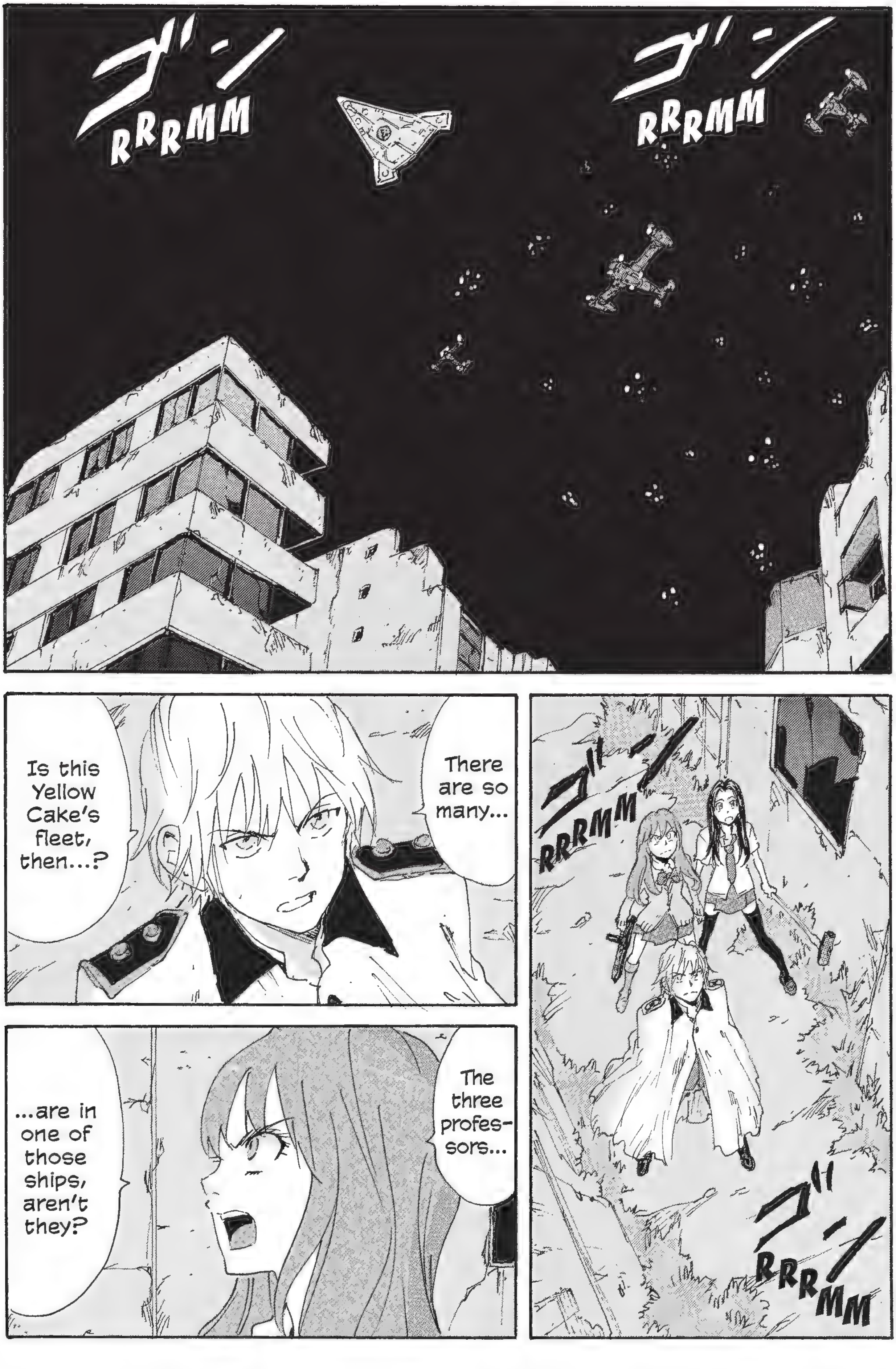

We saw the Black Wings fall...
Now we can communicate again.
C
A
B
That stupid voice...
The three professors!
This is the Retrieval Unit.
We've been waiting for your call.
We retrieved your *lost item*, just as ordered...
It's safe with us now.

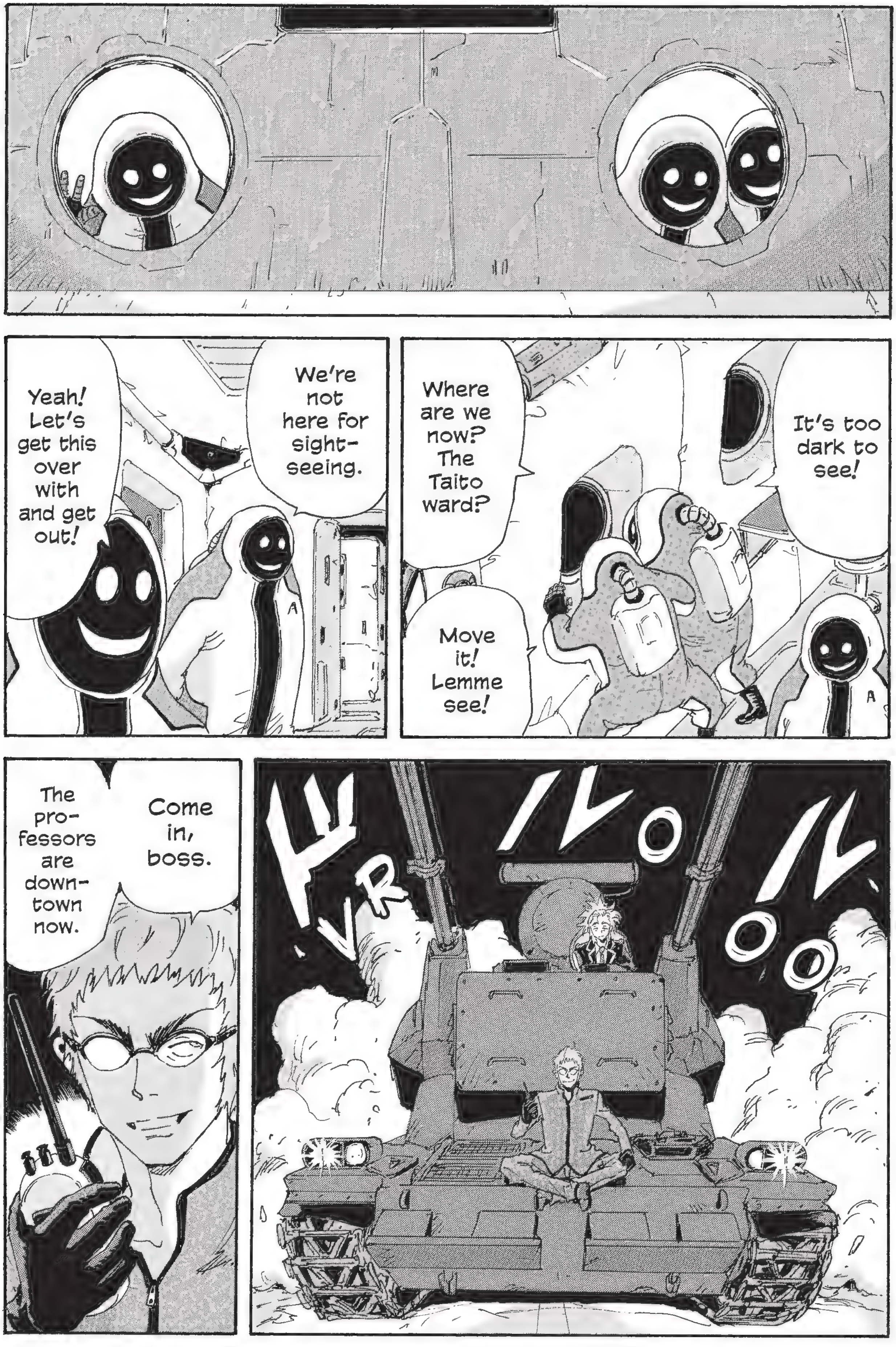

Good work.
We'll be landing in Tokyo shortly.
Be ready to hand over Aoi Fukasaku.
WHOOO
Copy that.
We'll tell you where to land soon.
?!
VRRRRMM
One... two... three...
Whoa, holy crap!

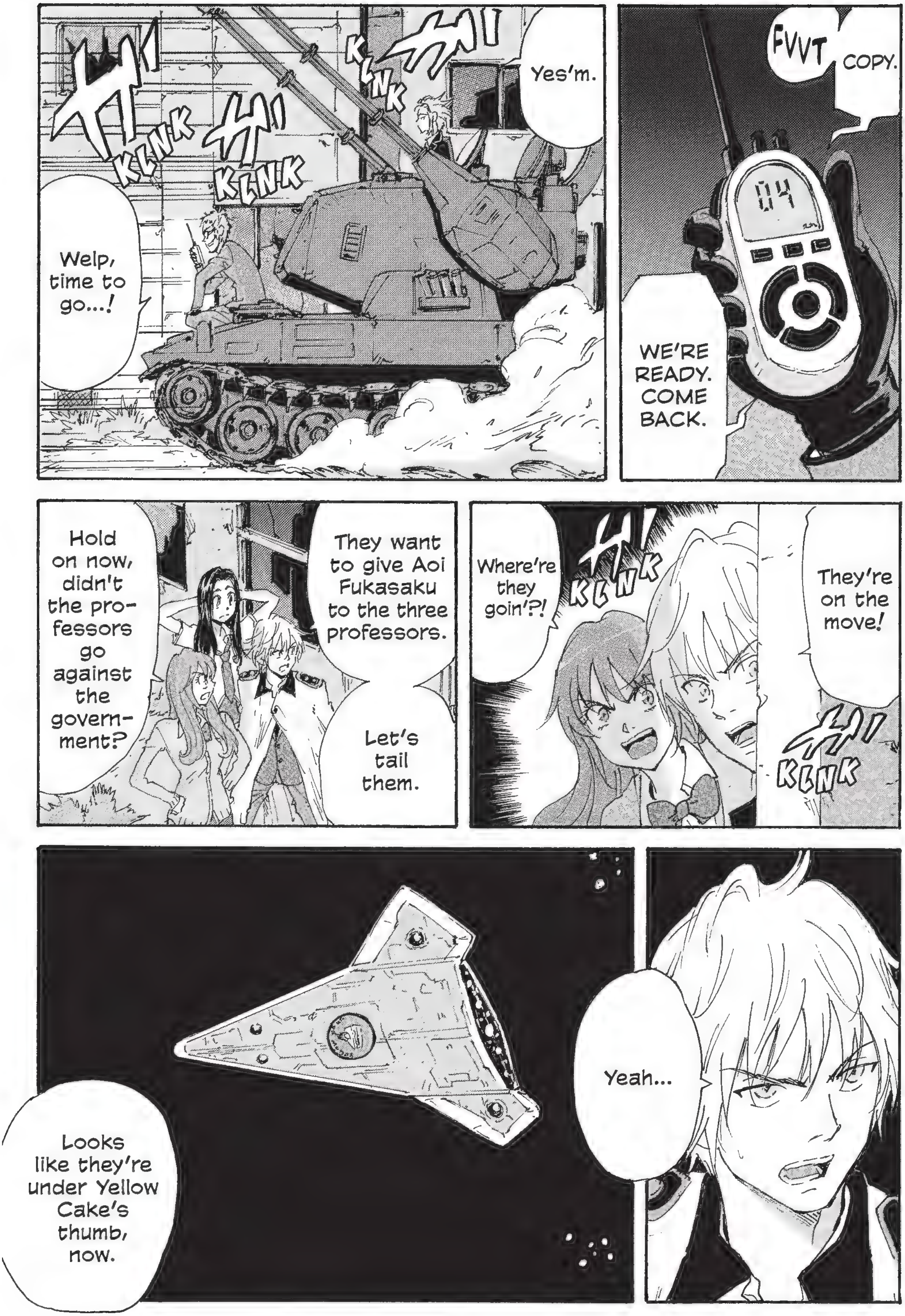

ゴ
R R R R
M M M
YELLOW CATS

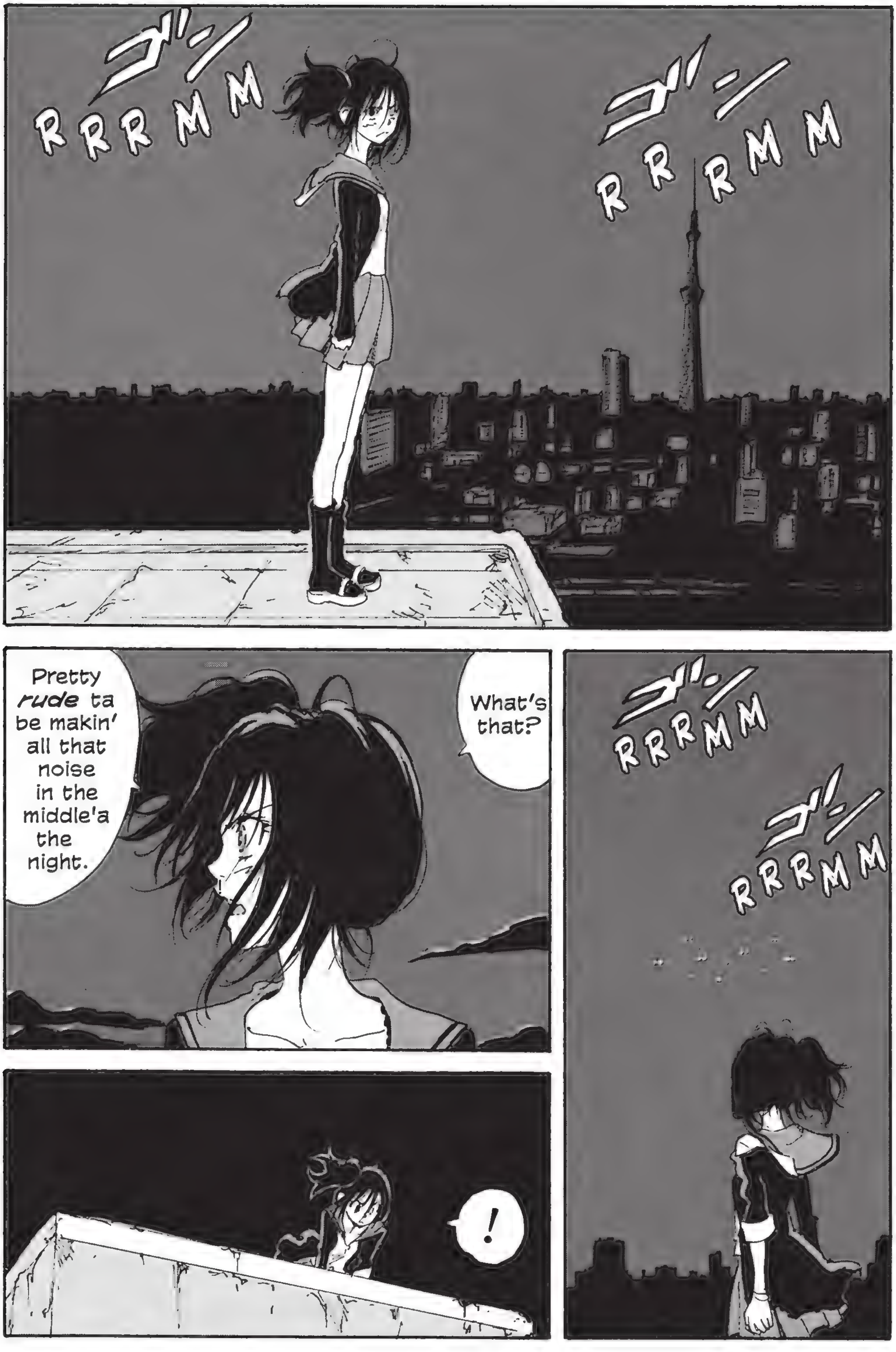
A-15 END

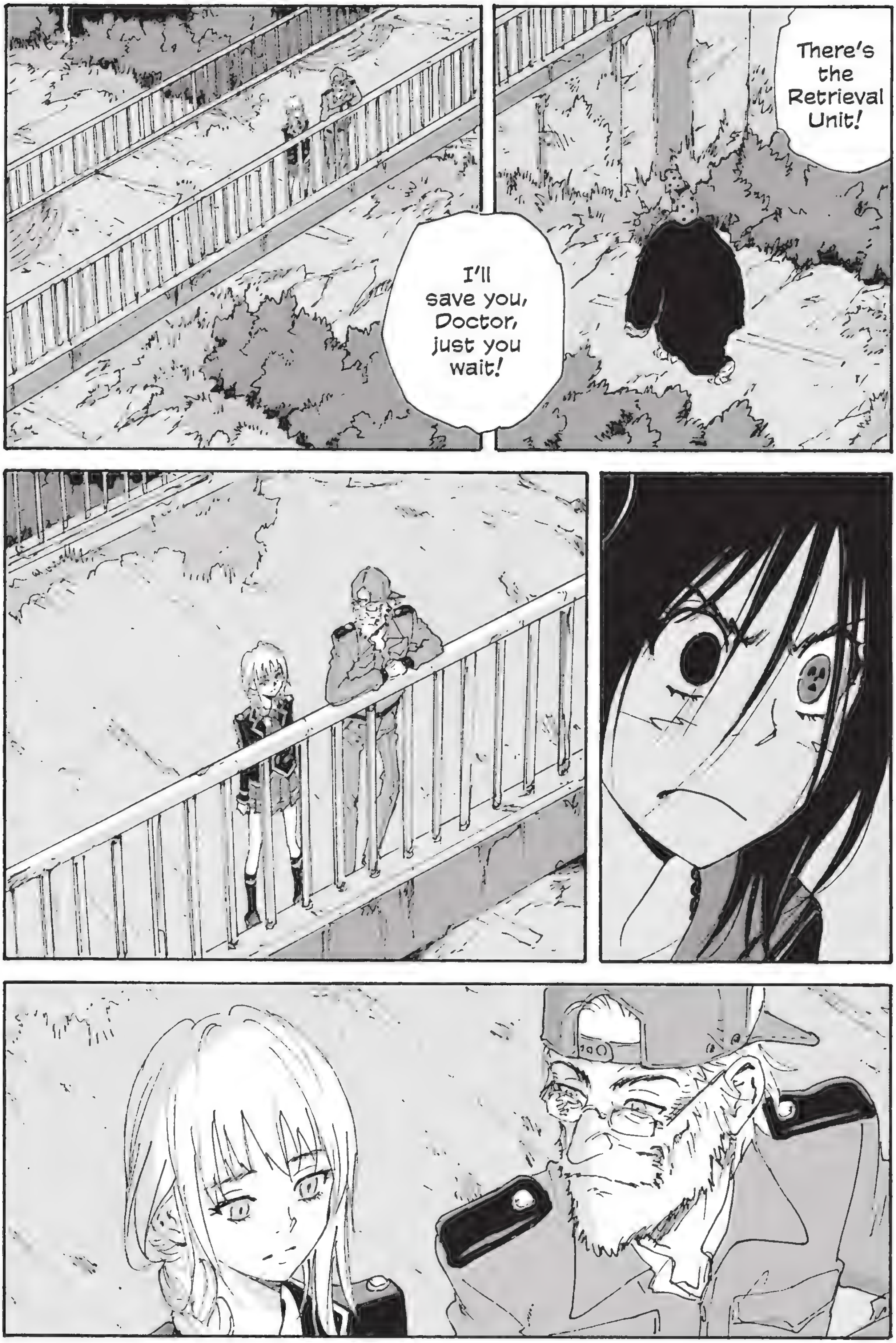
Act.16【Beneath the Masks】

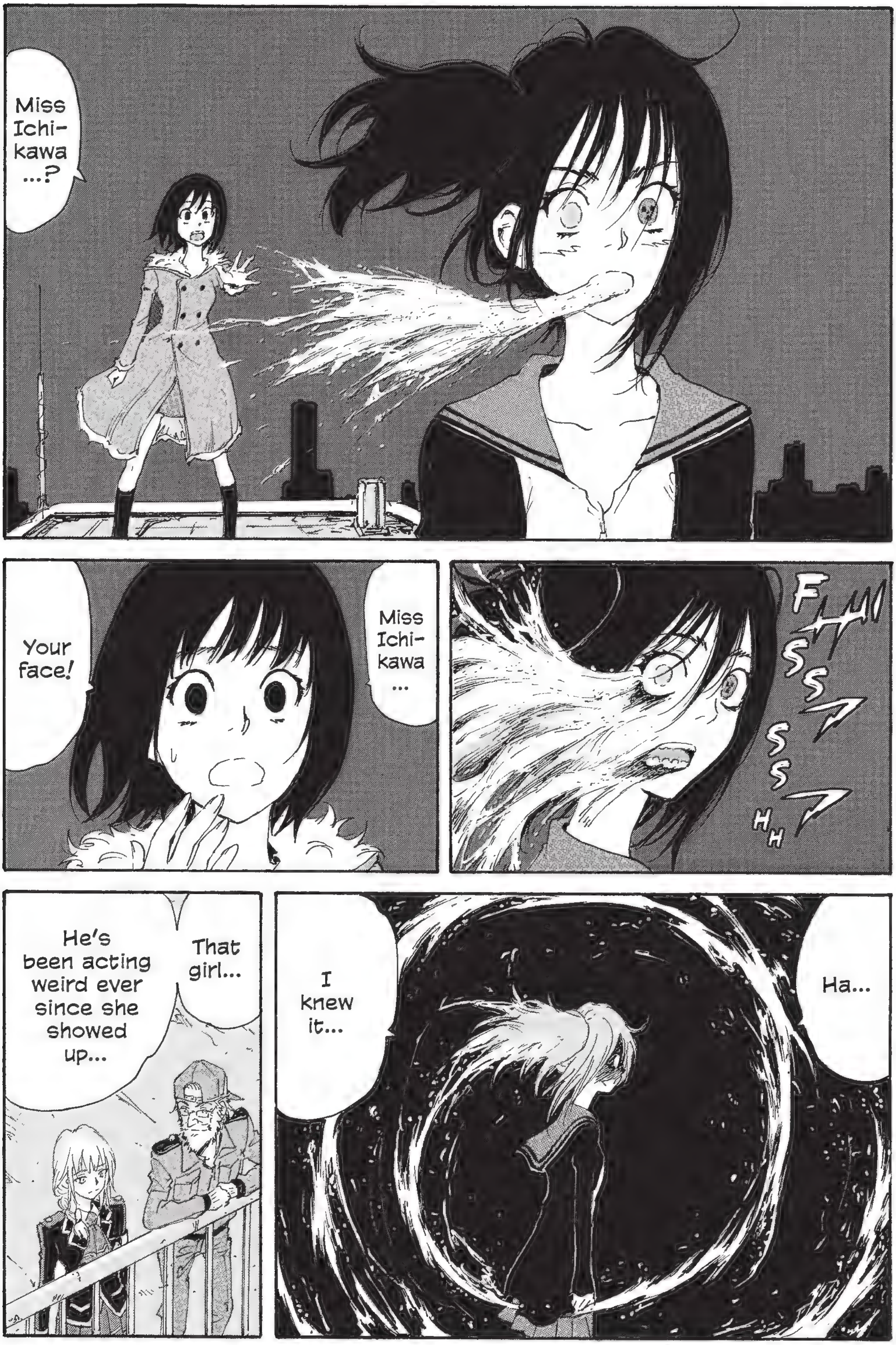

ゴーン
RRRMM
ゴーン
RRRMM
ゴーン
RRRMM
ゴーン
RRRMM
There are so many...
Is this Yellow Cake's fleet, then...?
The three professors...
...are in one of those ships, aren't they?

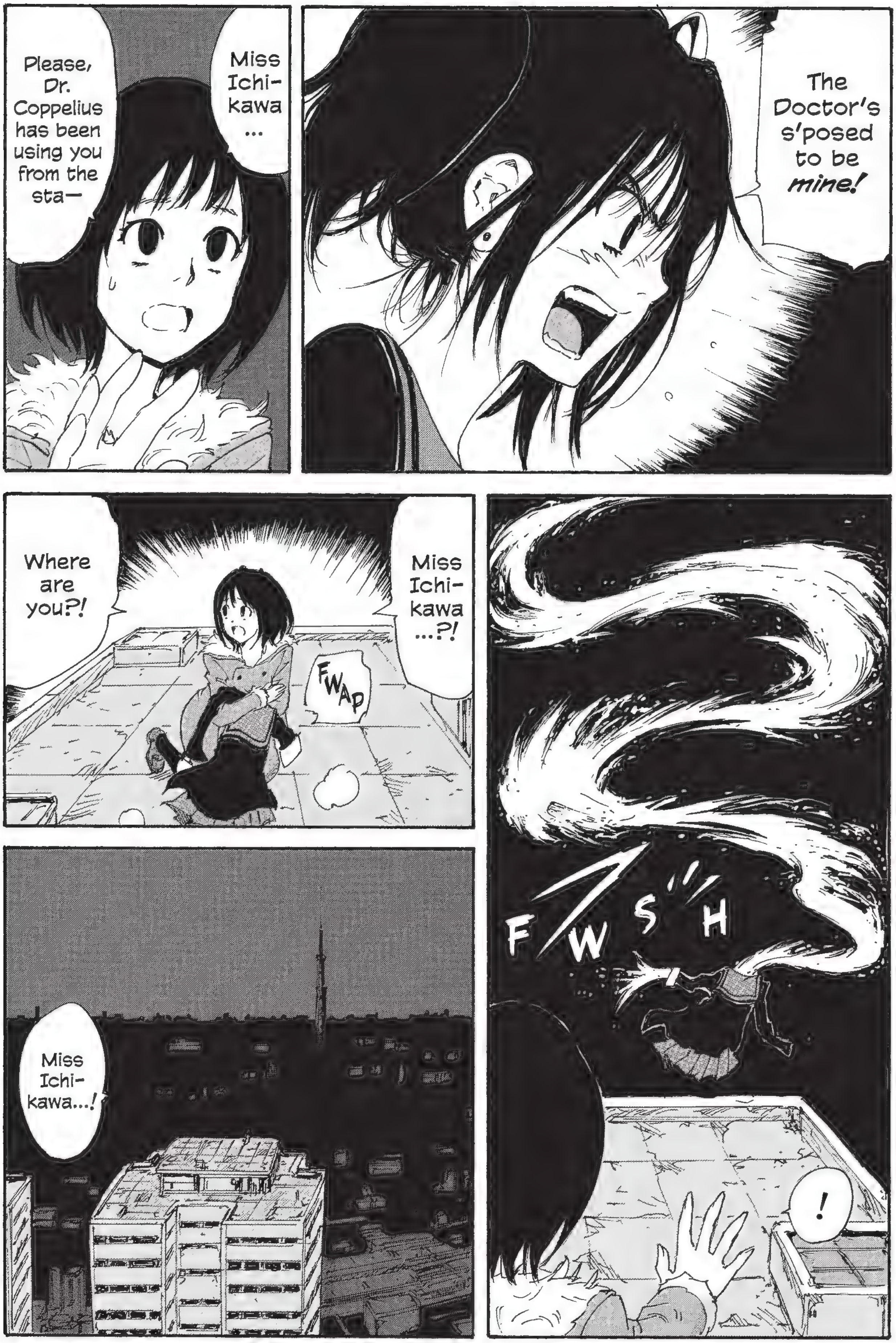

It's too dark to see!
Where are we now? The Taito ward?
Move it! Lemme see!
We're not here for sightseeing.
Yeah! Let's get this over with and get out!
VR
Come in, boss.
The professors are downtown now.

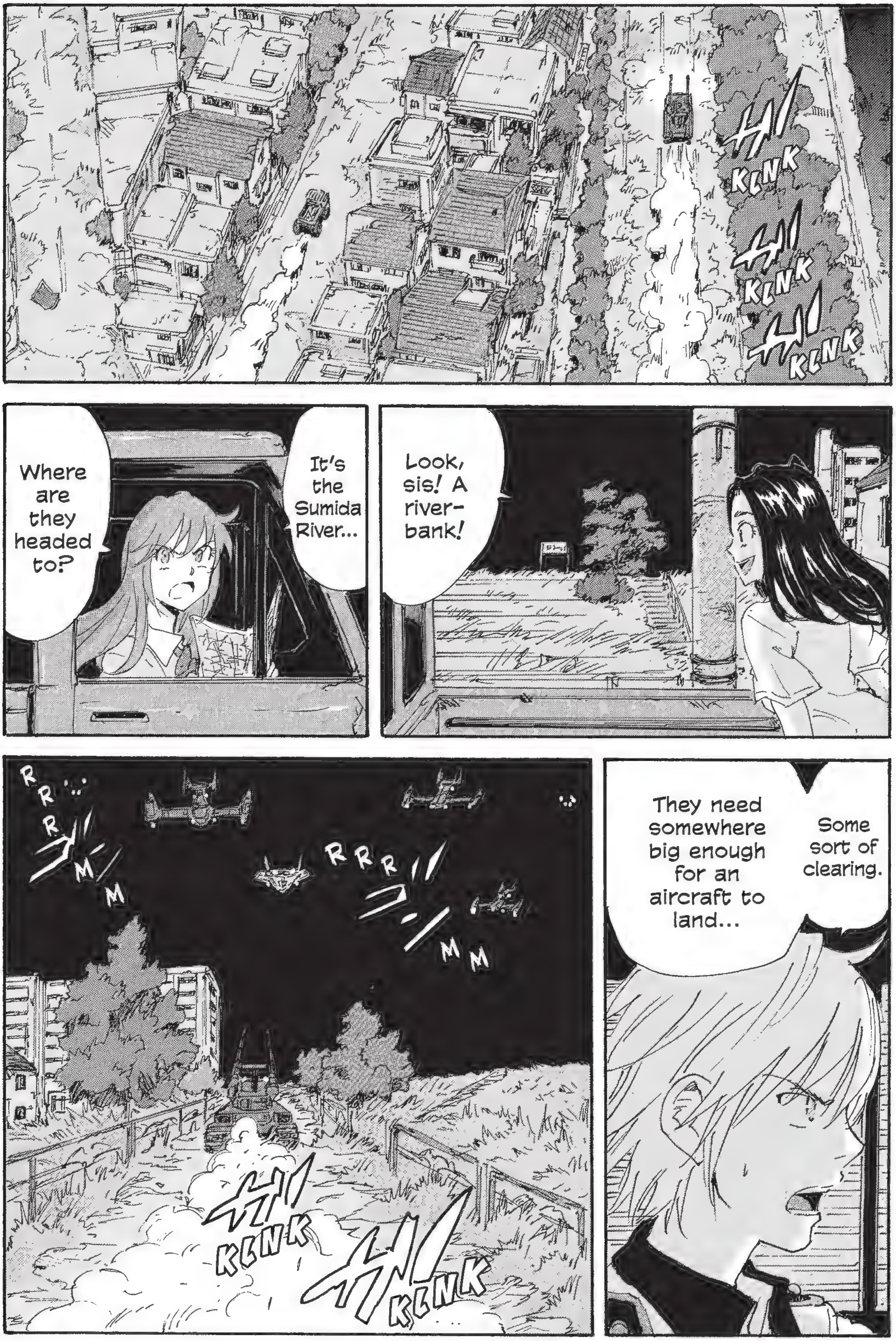

FVVT
COPY.
WE'RE READY. COME BACK.
Yes'm.
KLNK
KLNK
KLNK
Welp, time to go...!
They're on the move!
KLNK
Where're they goin'?!
KLNK
They want to give Aoi Fukasaku to the three professors.
Let's tail them.
Hold on now, didn't the professors go against the government?
Yeah...
Looks like they're under Yellow Cake's thumb, now.

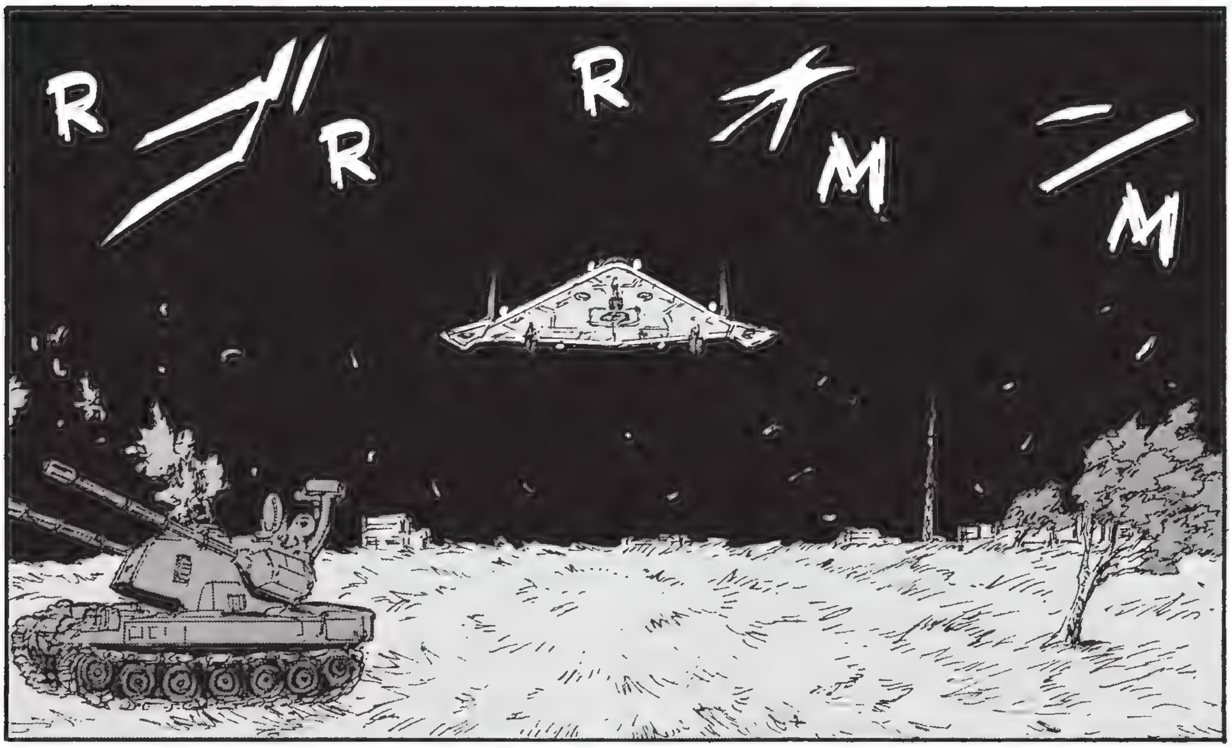
ゴン
RRRMM
ゴン
RRRMM
ゴン
RRRMM
ゴン
RRRMM
What's that?
Pretty *rude* ta be makin' all that noise in the middle'a the night.
!

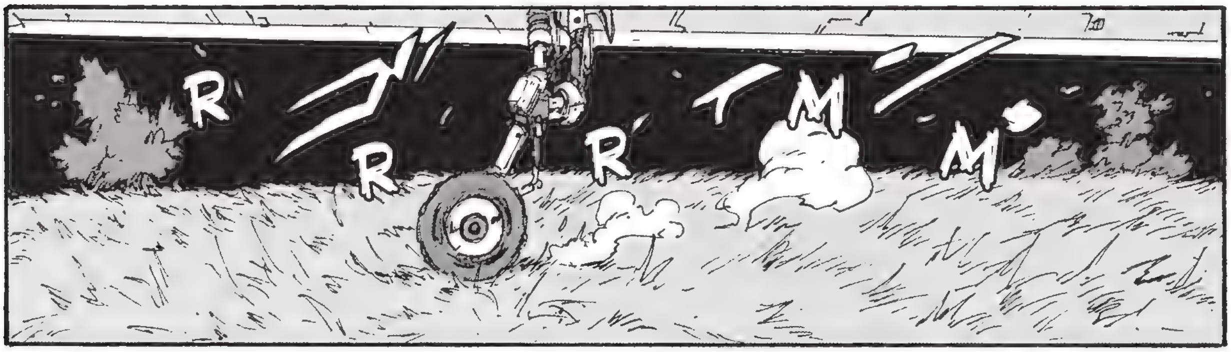

There's the Retrieval Unit!
I'll save you, Doctor, just you wait!

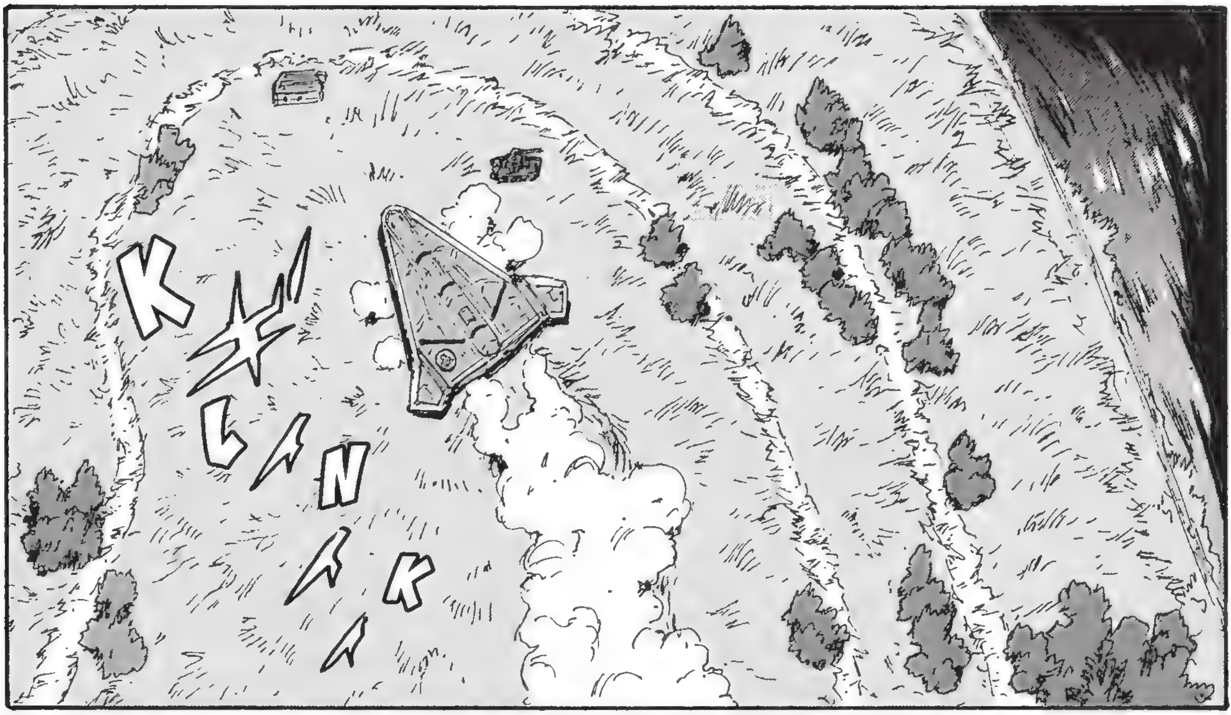

Miss Ichikawa...?
FHISSSSSHH
Miss Ichikawa...
Your face!
Ha...
I knew it...
That girl...
He's been acting weird ever since she showed up...

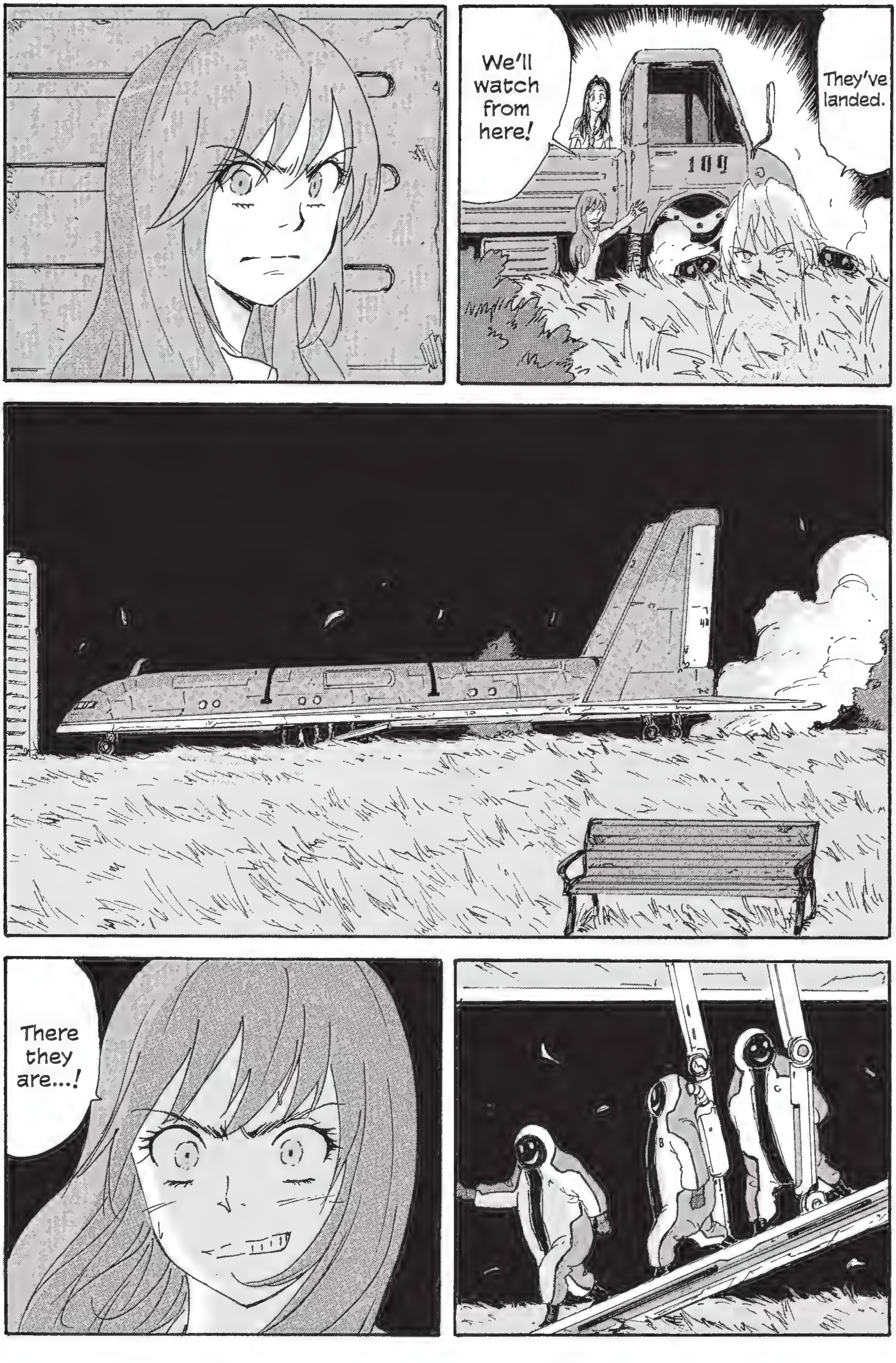

The Doctor's s'posed to be *mine!*
Miss Ichikawa...
Please, Dr. Coppelius has been using you from the sta—
FWSH
!
Miss Ichikawa...?!
Where are you?!
FWAP
Miss Ichikawa...!

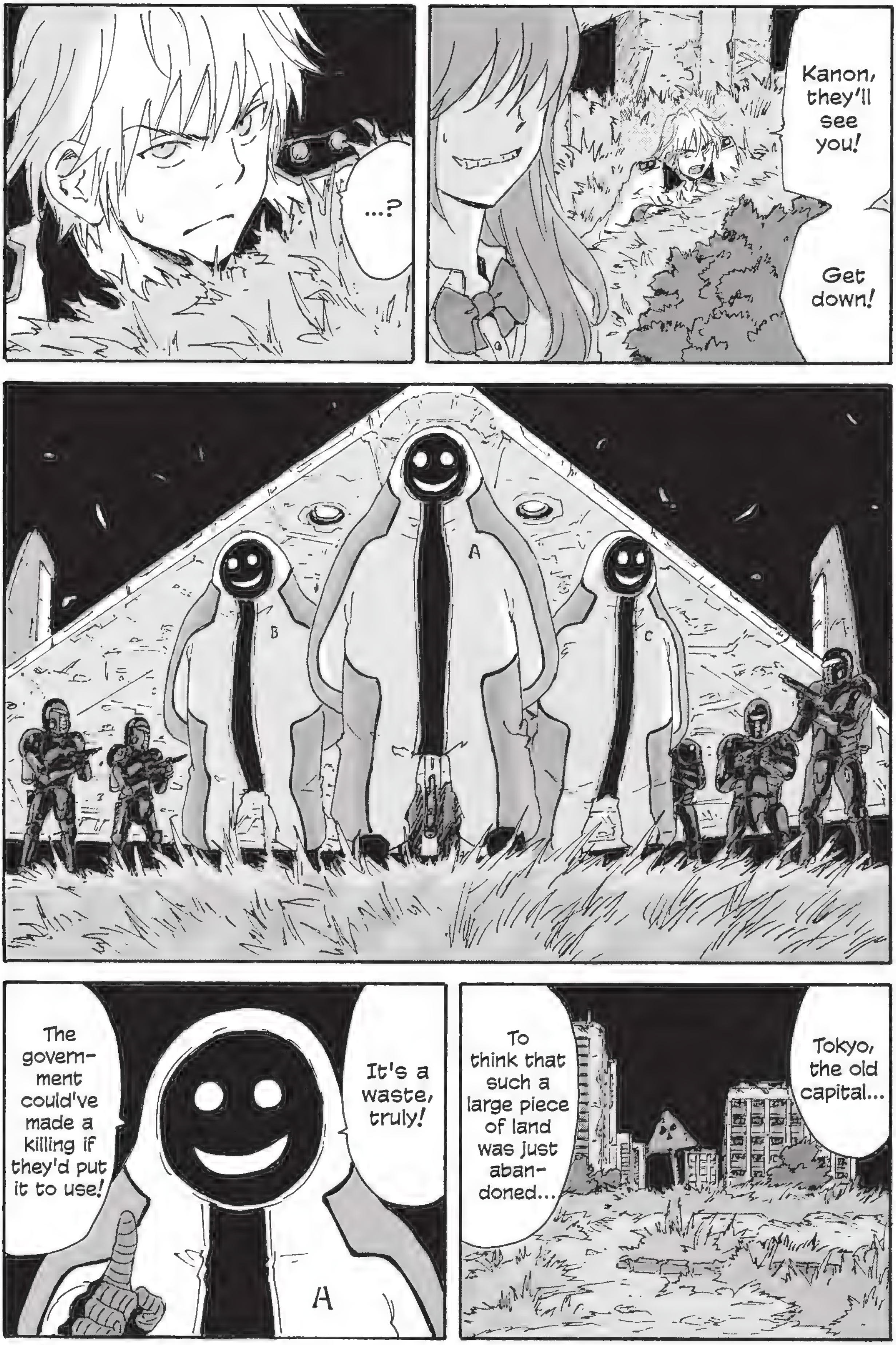

KLNK
KLNK
KLNK
Where are they headed to?
It's the Sumida River...
Look, sis! A riverbank!
RRRMM
RRRMM
KLNK
KLNK
They need somewhere big enough for an aircraft to land...
Some sort of clearing.

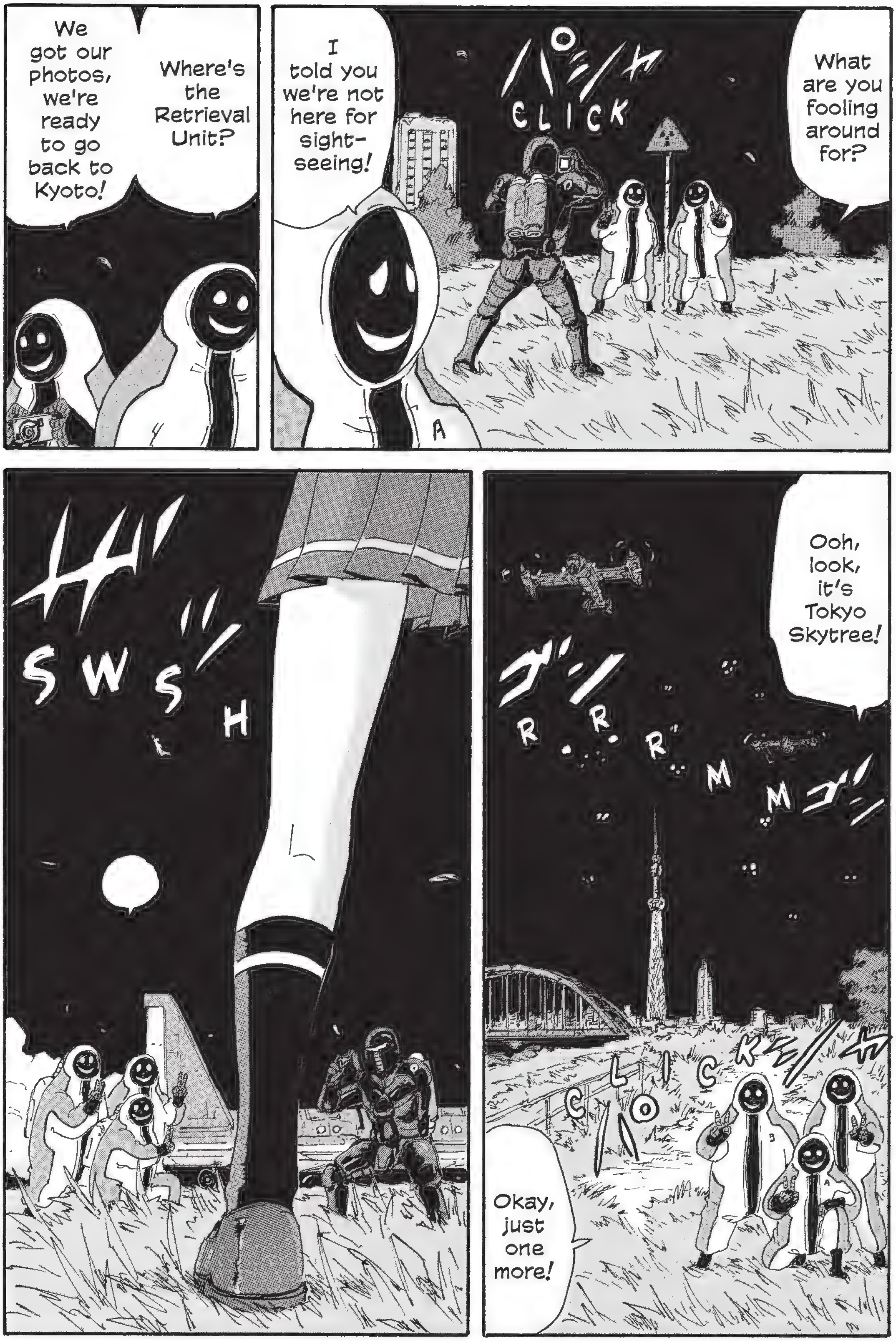

RRRMM

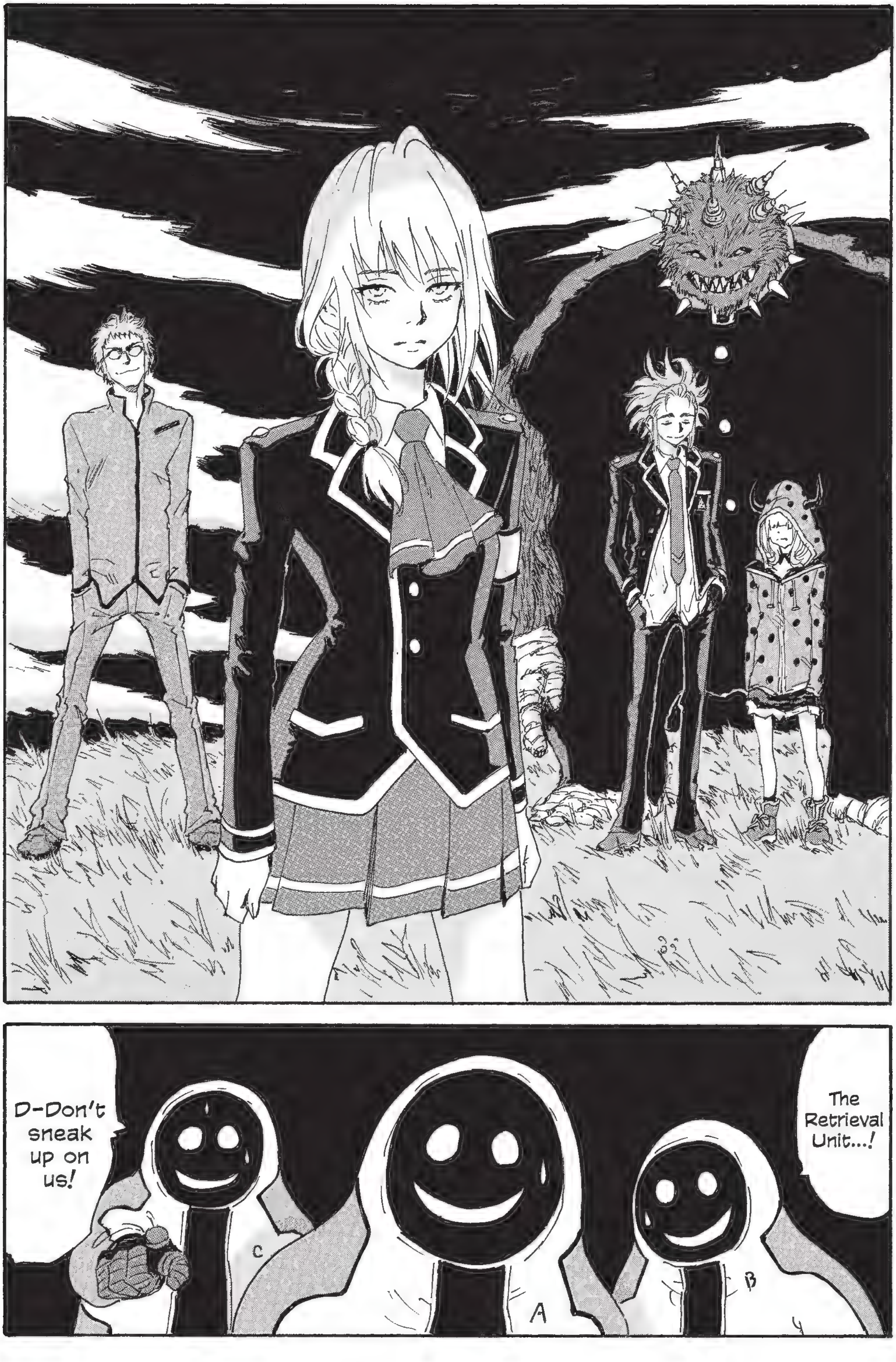

RRRMM

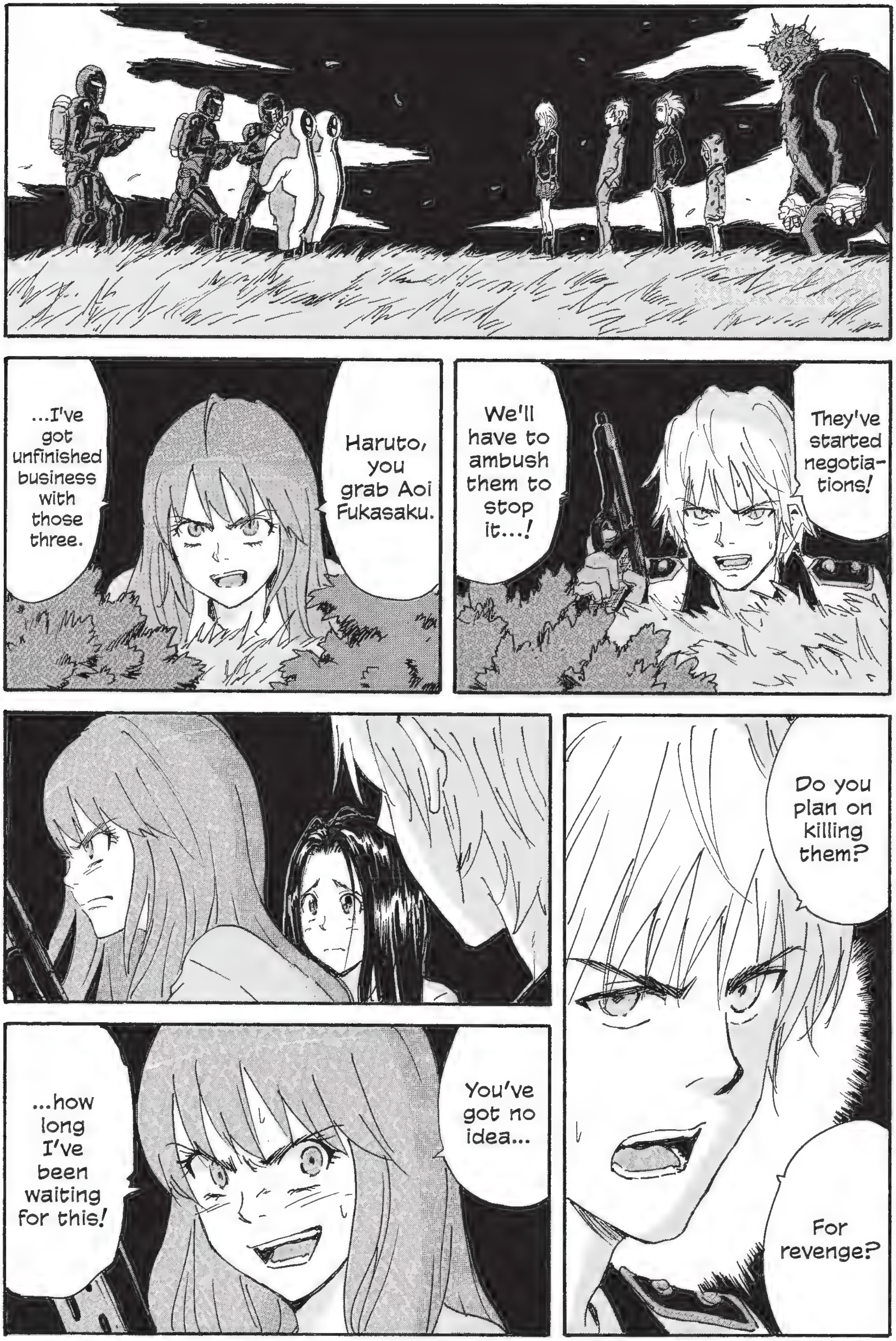

KLANK

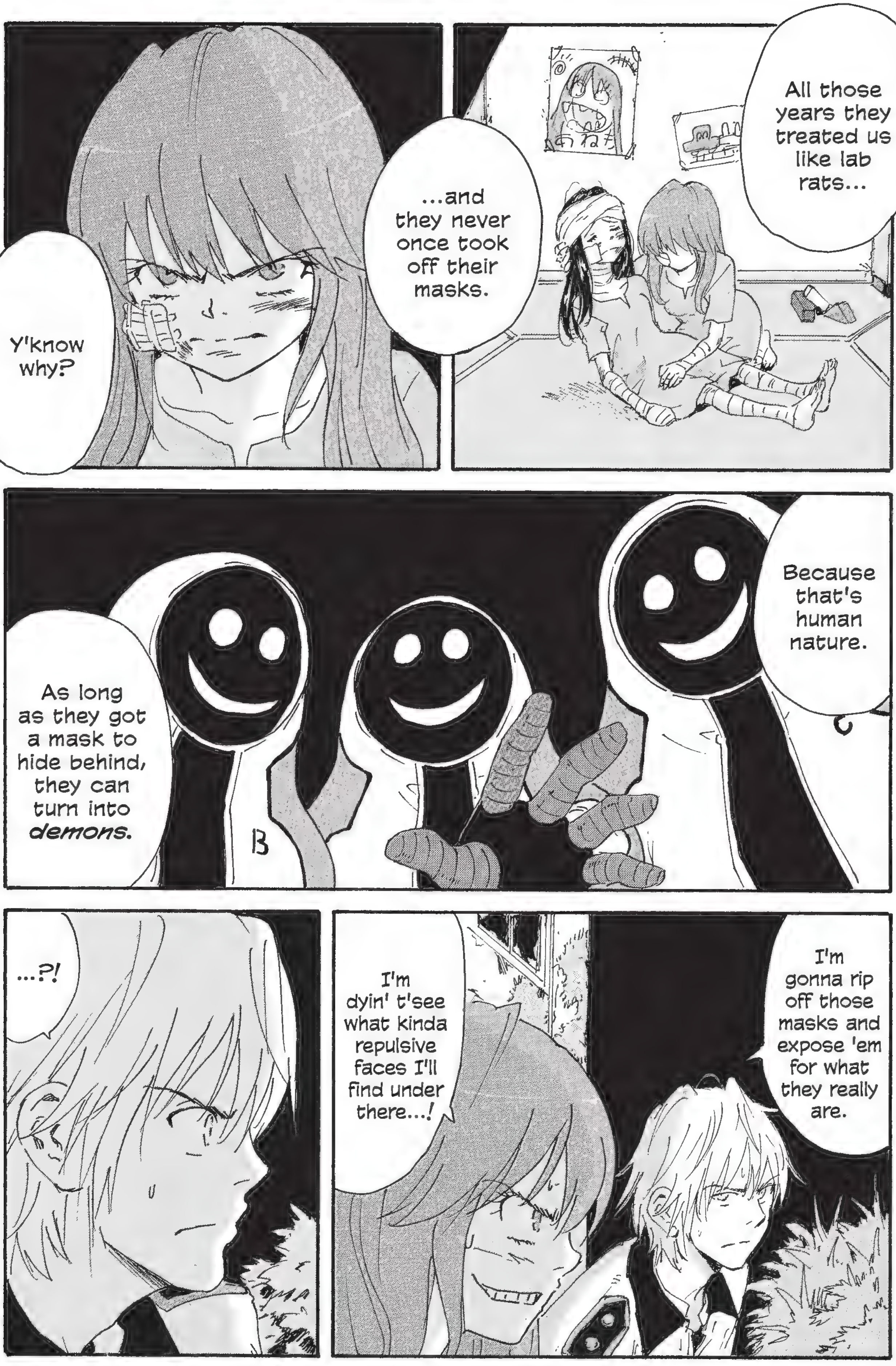

They've landed.
We'll watch from here!
109
There they are...!

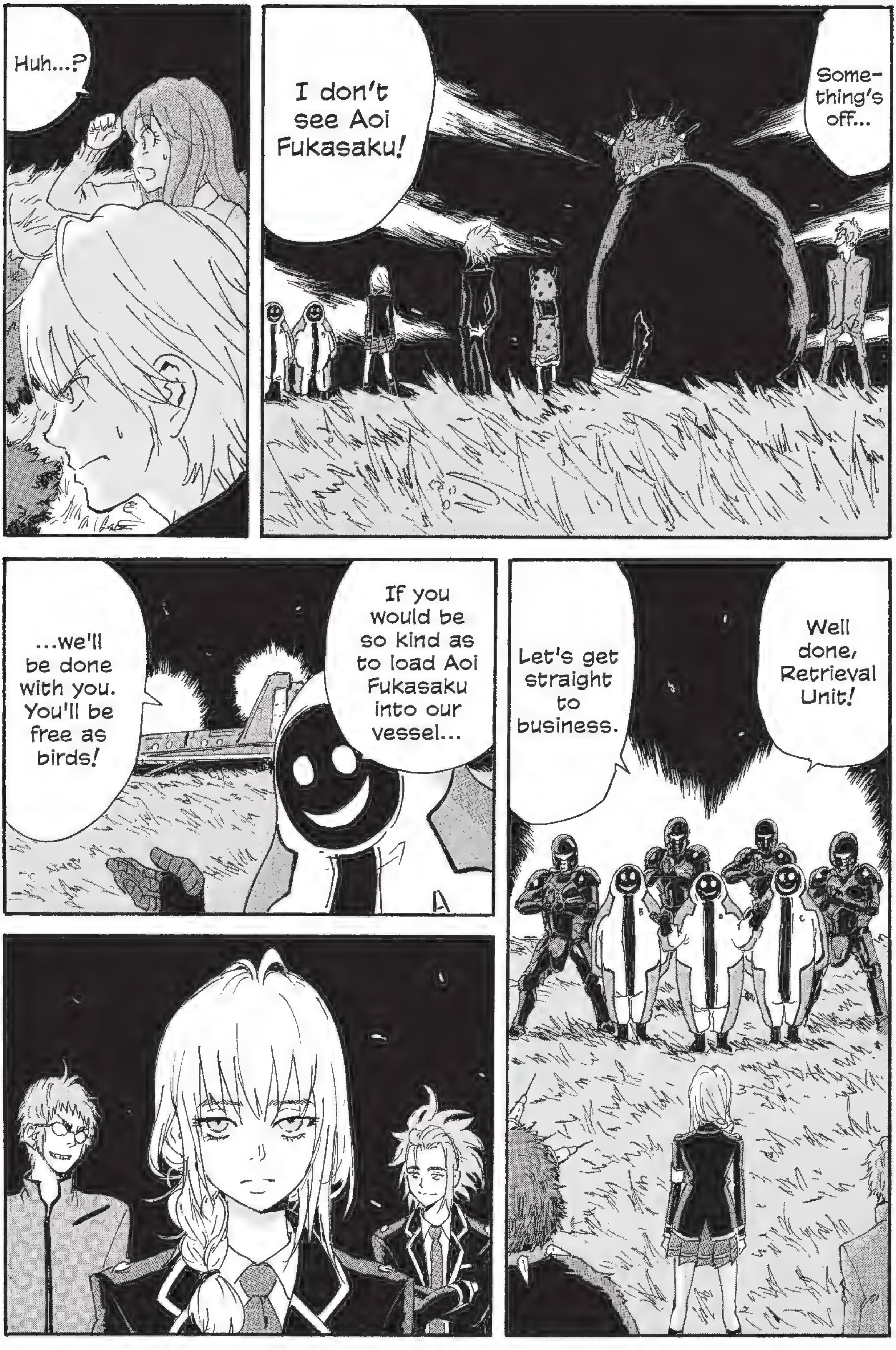

Kanon, they'll see you!
Get down!
...?
A
B
C
Tokyo, the old capital...
To think that such a large piece of land was just abandoned...
It's a waste, truly!
The government could've made a killing if they'd put it to use!
A

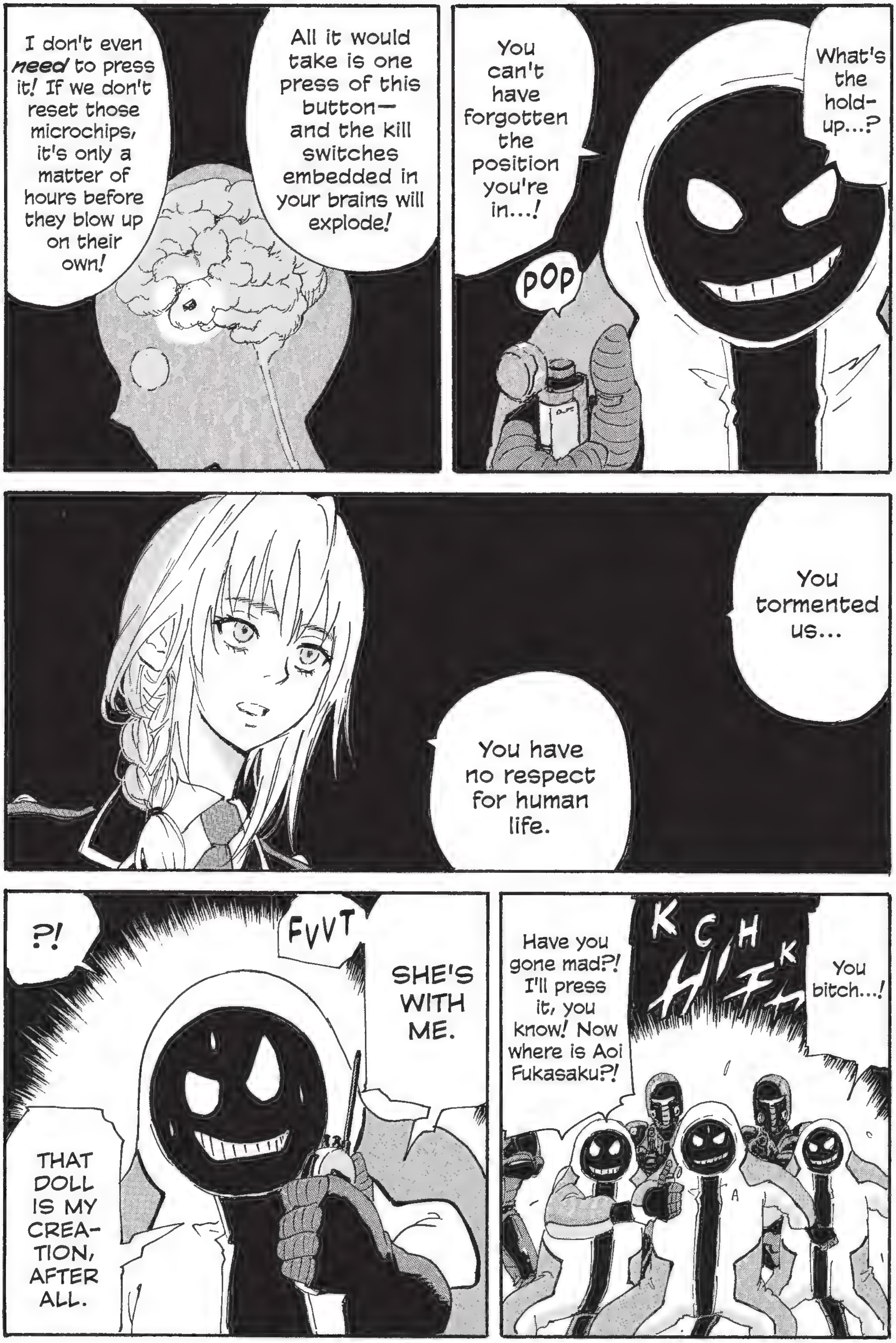

What are you fooling around for?
パシャ
CLICK
I told you we're not here for sight-seeing!
Where's the Retrieval Unit?
We got our photos, we're ready to go back to Kyoto!
Ooh, look, it's Tokyo Skytree!
RRRMMM
CLICK
パシャ
Okay, just one more!
SWSSH

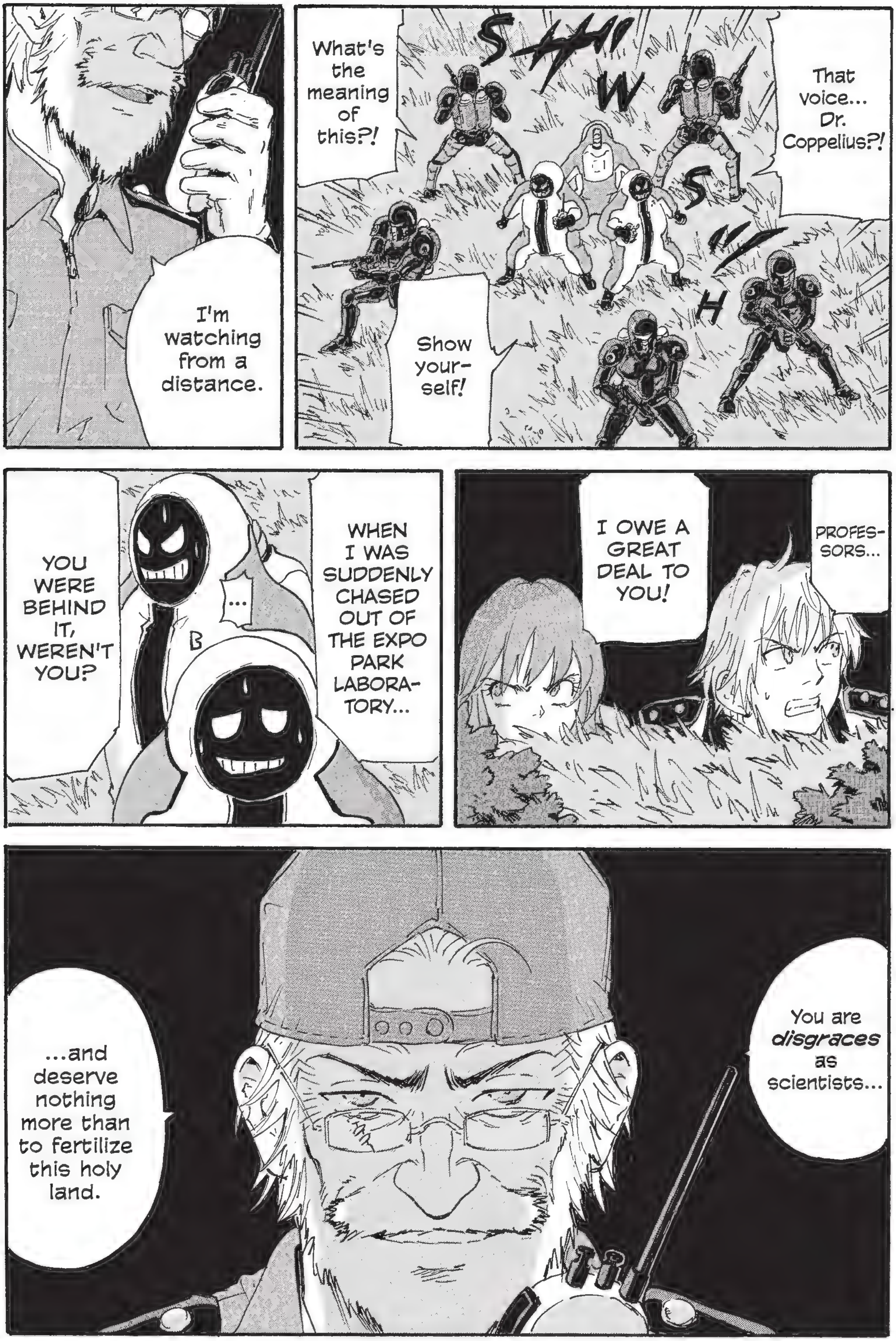

The Retrieval Unit...!
D-Don't sneak up on us!
C
A
B

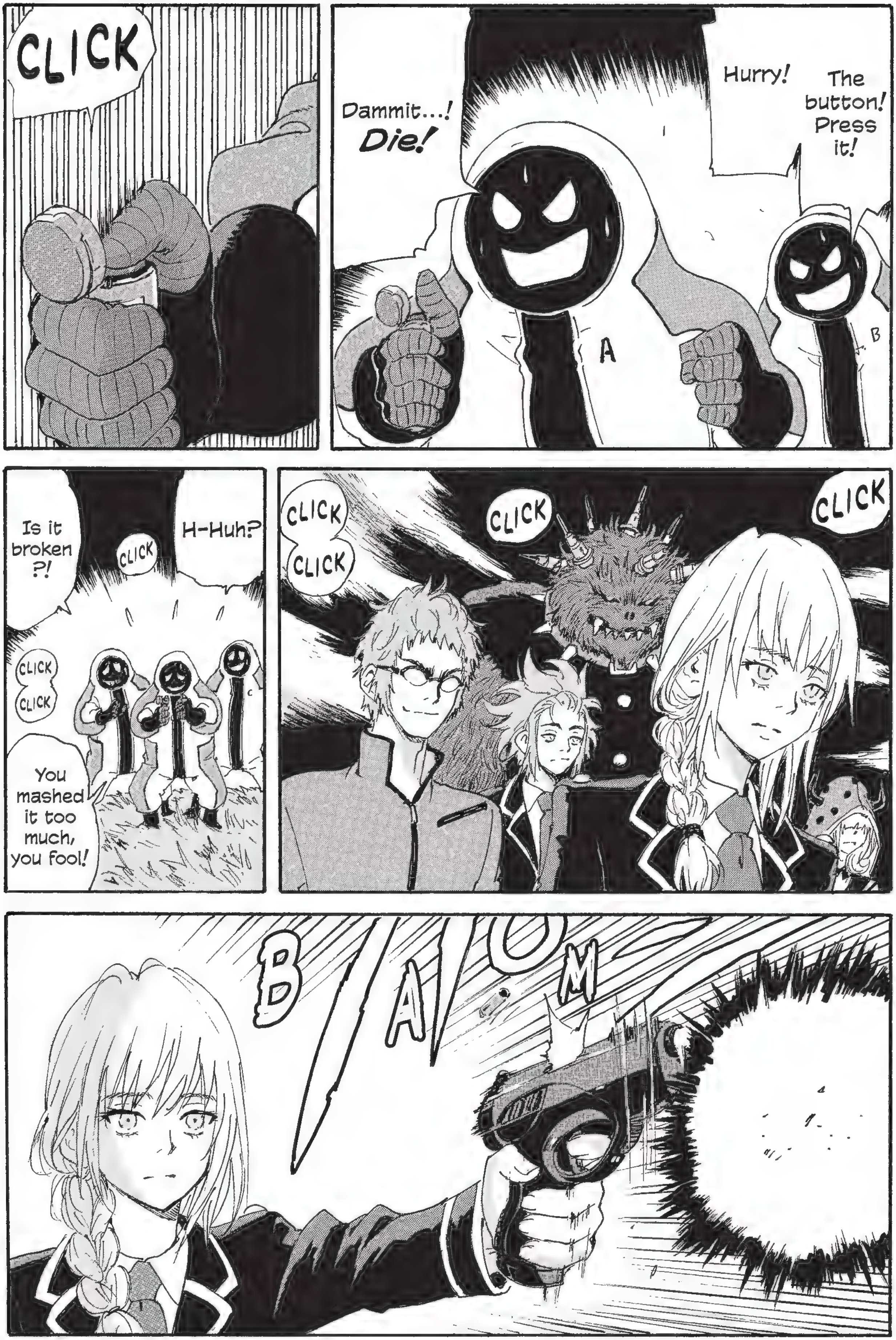

They've started negotiations!
We'll have to ambush them to stop it...!
Haruto, you grab Aoi Fukasaku.
...I've got unfinished business with those three.
Do you plan on killing them?
For revenge?
You've got no idea...
...how long I've been waiting for this!

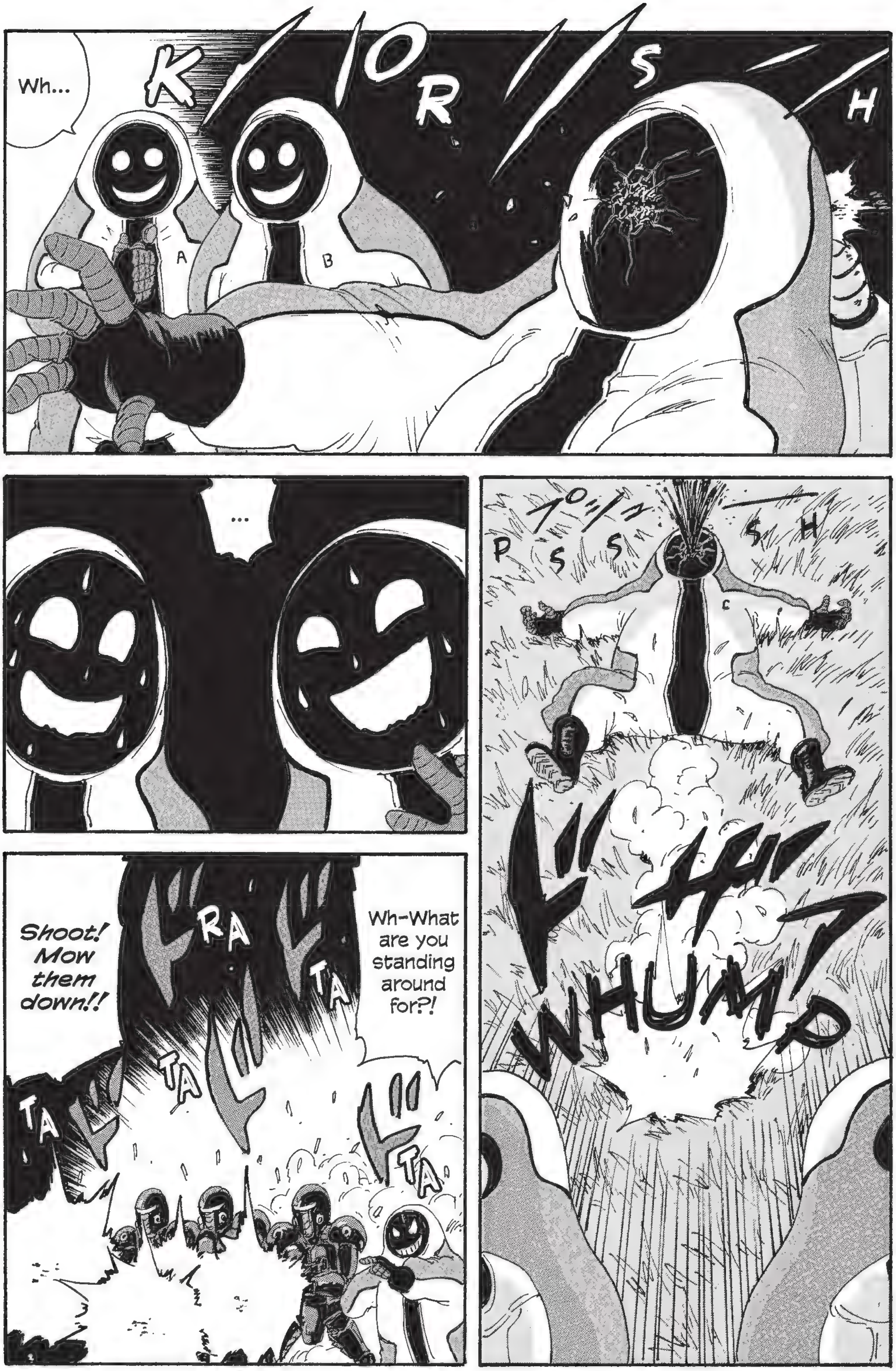

All those years they treated us like lab rats...
...and they never once took off their masks.
Y'know why?
Because that's human nature.
As long as they got a mask to hide behind, they can turn into *demons*.
I'm gonna rip off those masks and expose 'em for what they really are.
I'm dyin' t'see what kinda repulsive faces I'll find under there...!
...?!

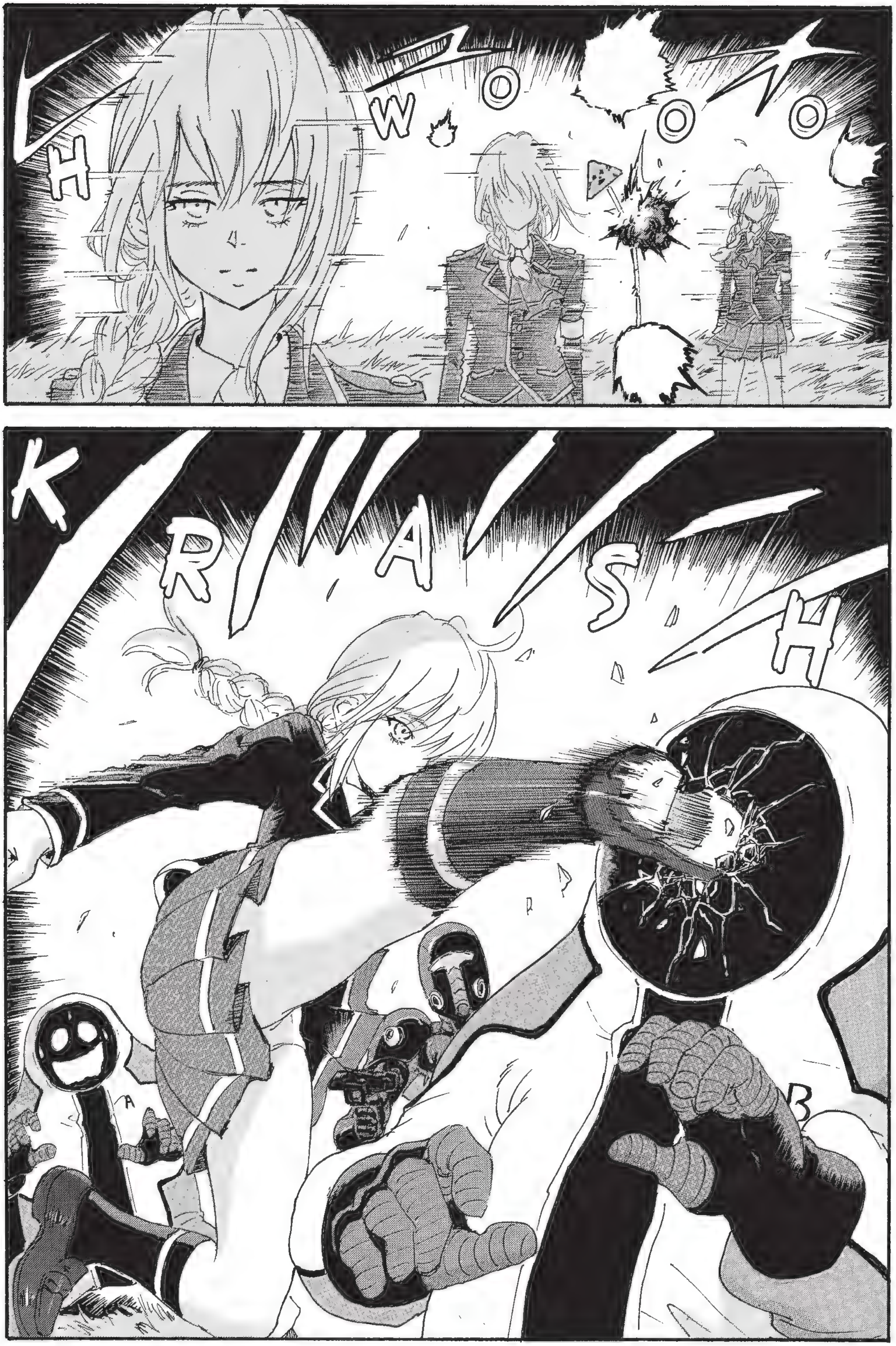

Something's off...
I don't see Aoi Fukasaku!
Huh...?
Well done, Retrieval Unit!
Let's get straight to business.
If you would be so kind as to load Aoi Fukasaku into our vessel...
...we'll be done with you. You'll be free as birds!

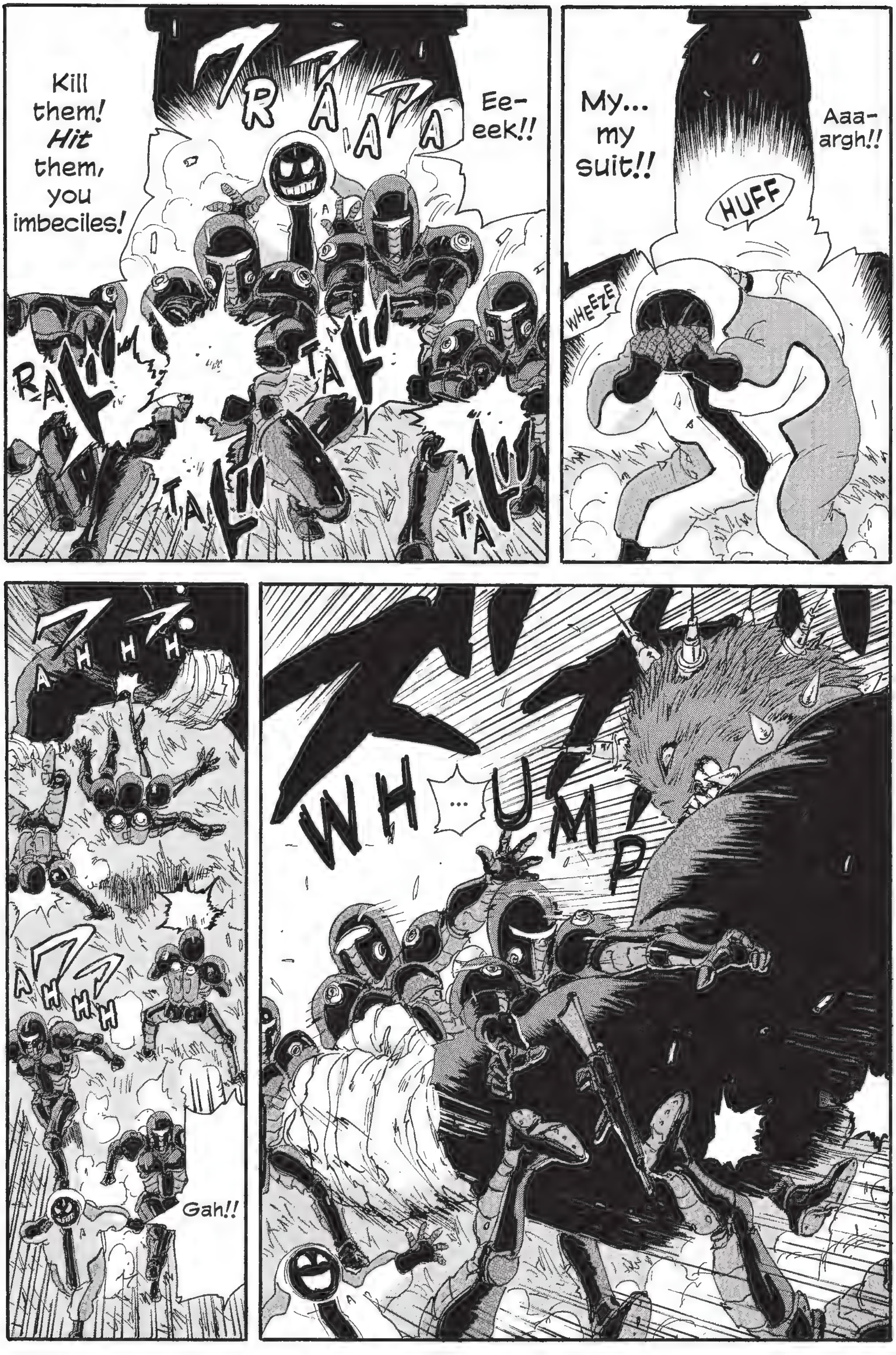

What's the hold-up...?
You can't have forgotten the position you're in...!
POP
All it would take is one press of this button—and the kill switches embedded in your brains will explode!
I don't even *need* to press it! If we don't reset those microchips, it's only a matter of hours before they blow up on their own!
You tormented us...
You have no respect for human life.
You bitch...!
KCHK
Have you gone mad?! I'll press it, you know! Now where is Aoi Fukasaku?!
SHE'S WITH ME.
FVVT
?!
THAT DOLL IS MY CREATION, AFTER ALL.

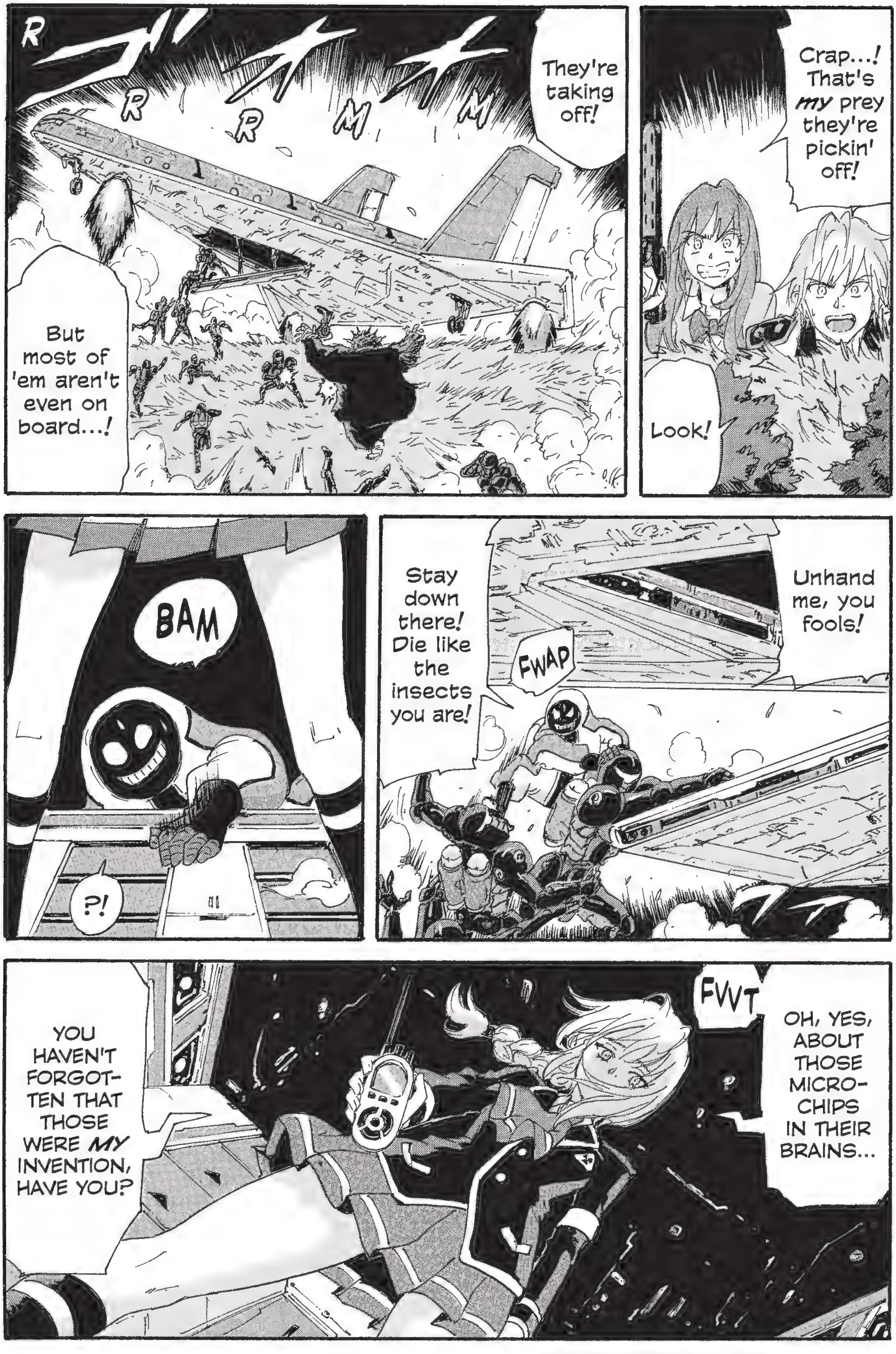

That voice... Dr. Coppelius?!
What's the meaning of this?!
SHWSH
SHWSH
Show yourself!
I'm watching from a distance.
PROFESSORS...
I OWE A GREAT DEAL TO YOU!
WHEN I WAS SUDDENLY CHASED OUT OF THE EXPO PARK LABORATORY...
...
B
YOU WERE BEHIND IT, WEREN'T YOU?
You are *disgraces* as scientists...
...and deserve nothing more than to fertilize this holy land.

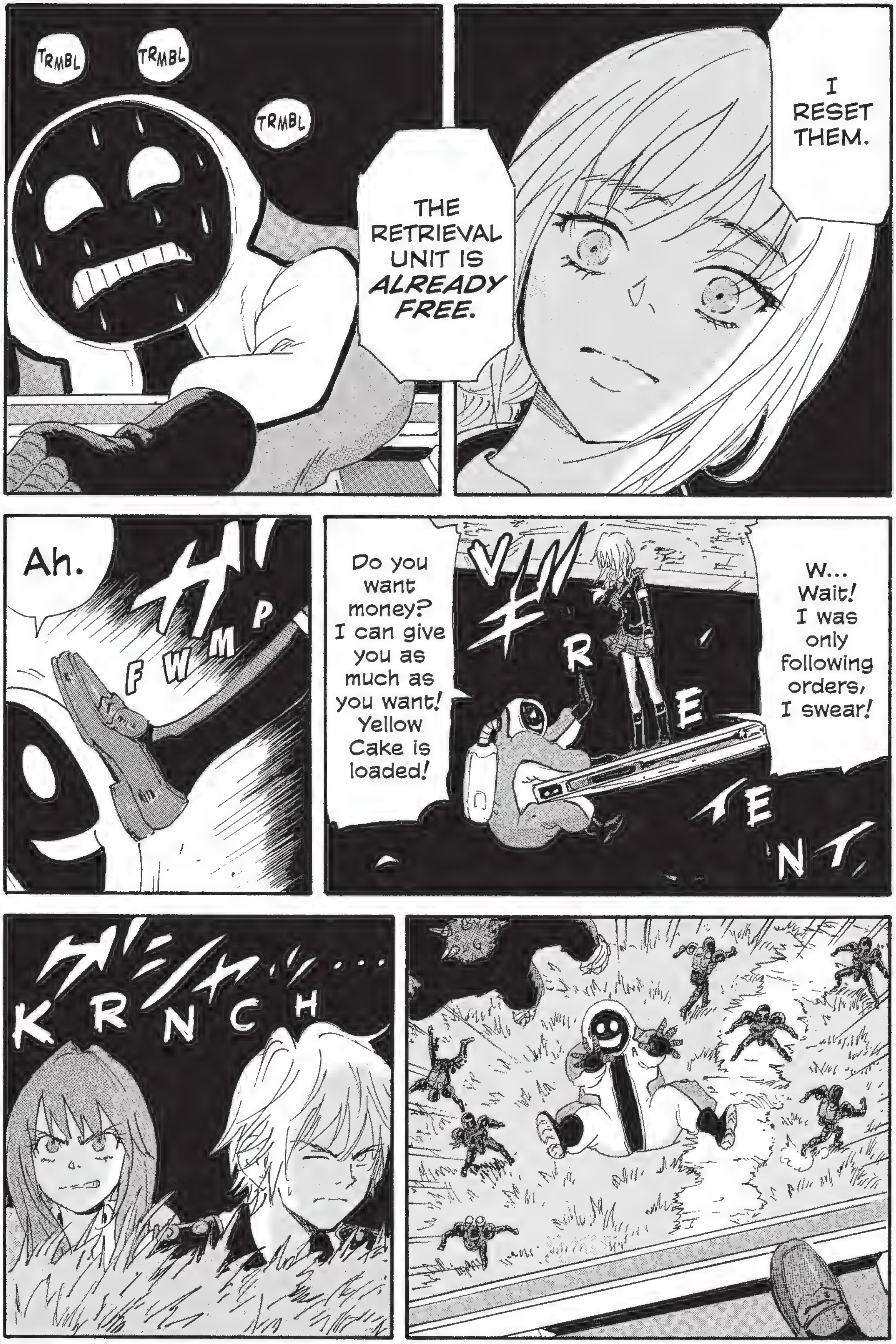

The button! Press it!
Hurry!
Dammit...! Die!
A
B
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
H-Huh?
CLICK
Is it broken?!
C
CLICK
CLICK
You mashed it too much, you fool!
BLAM

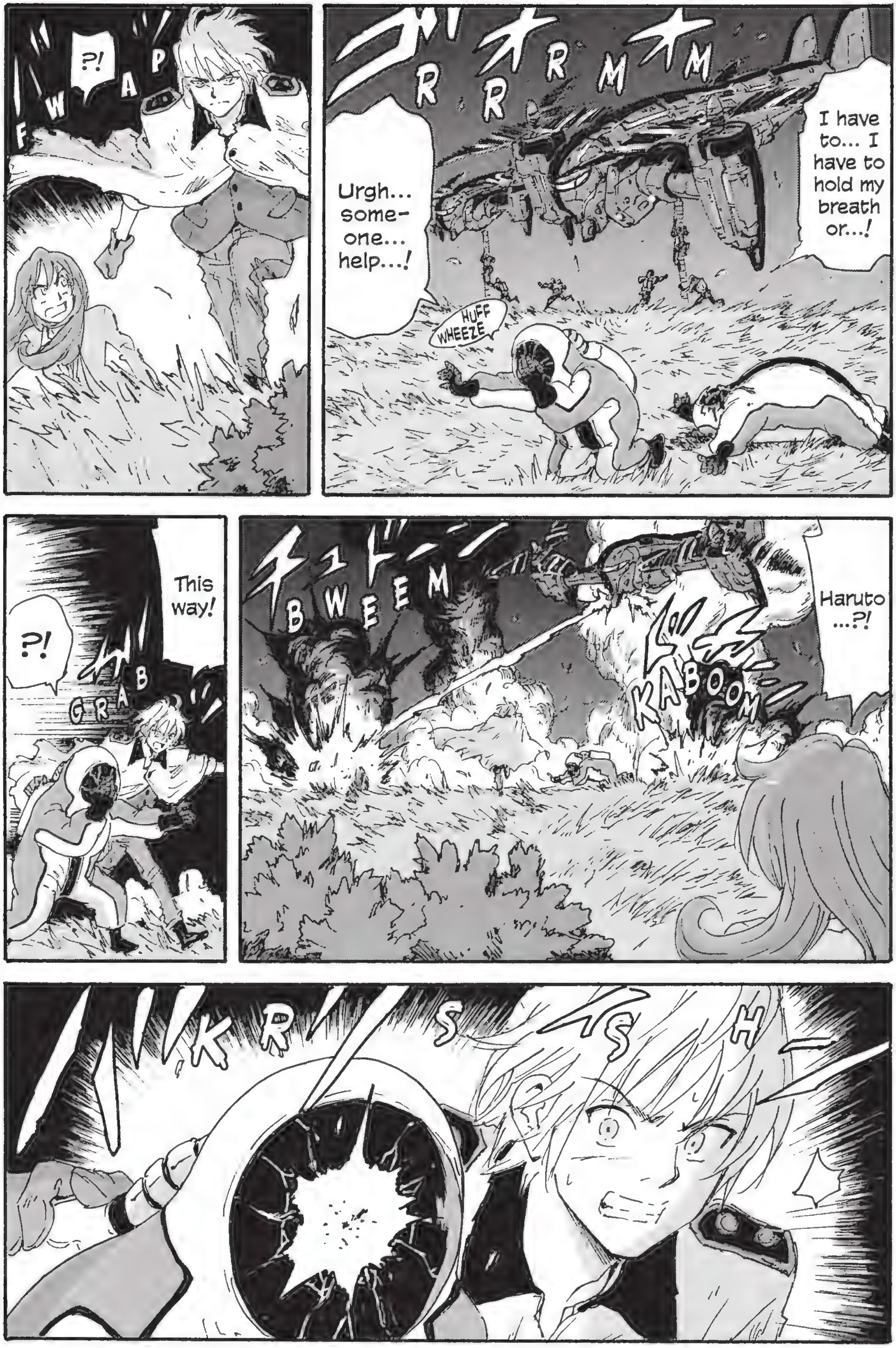

Wh...
KORSH
A
B
PSSSH
C
WHUMP
...
Wh-What are you standing around for?!
Shoot! Mow them down!!
RA TA TA TA TA TA

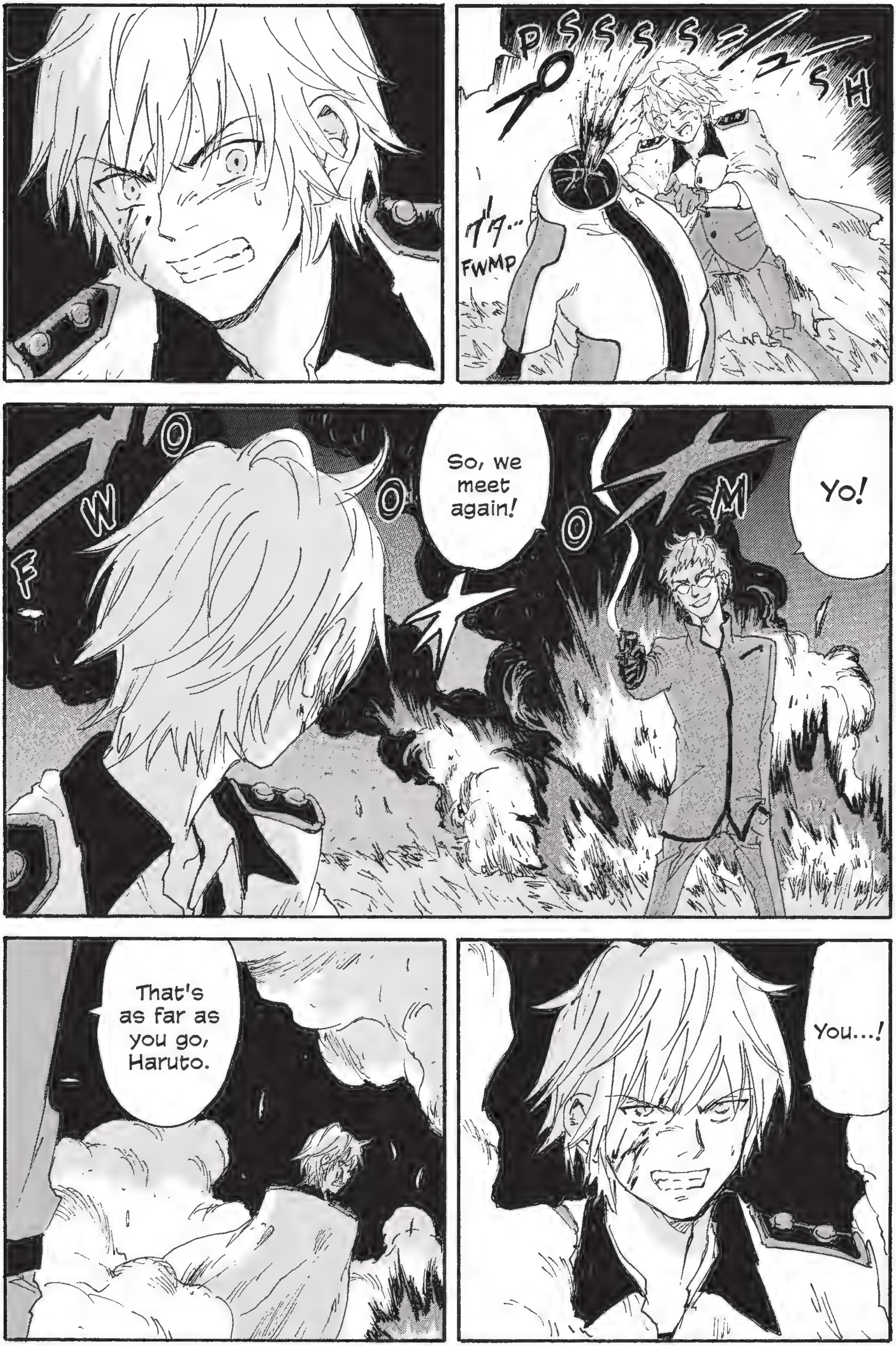

HWOOO
KRASH

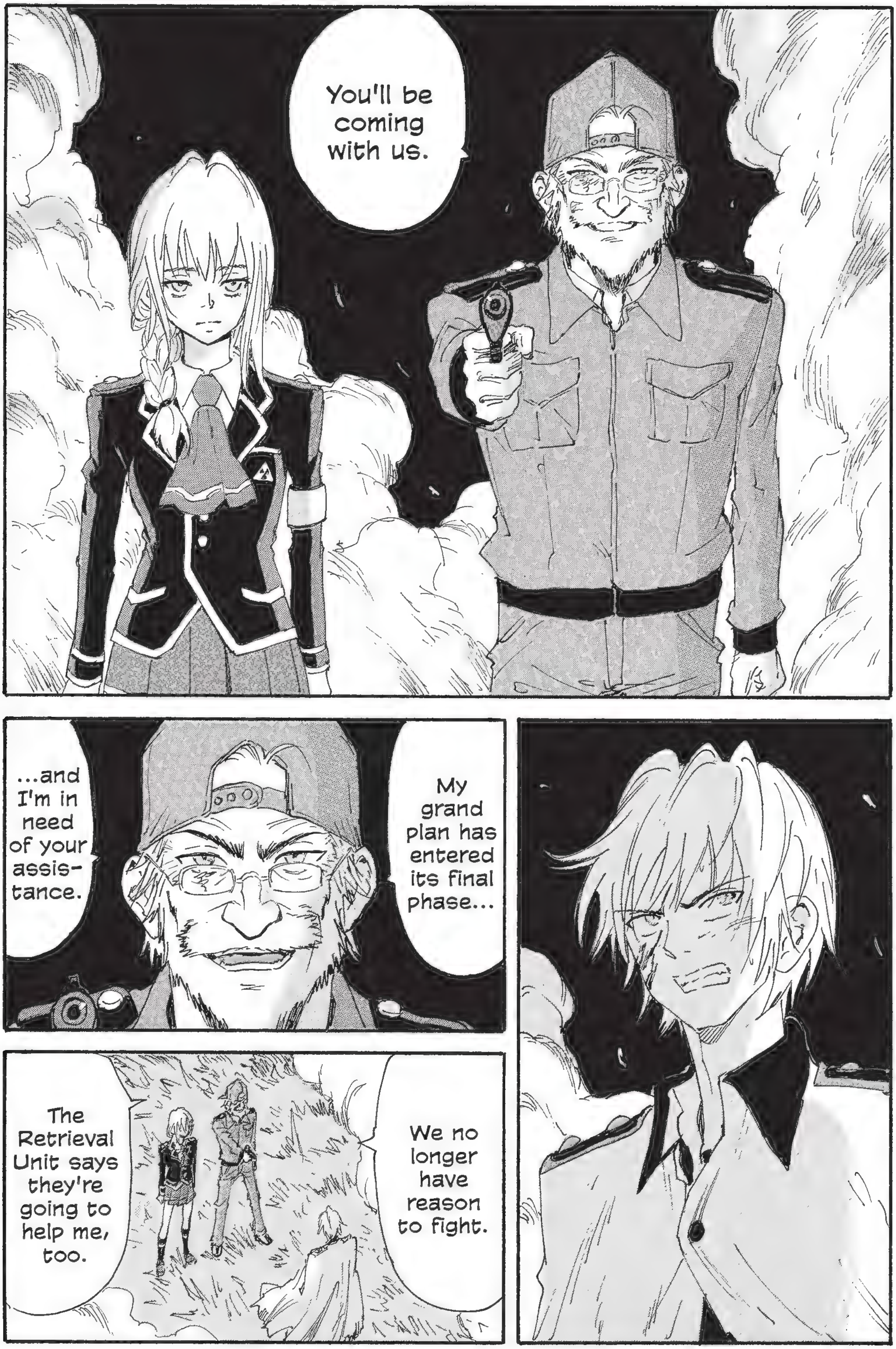

Kill them! *Hit* them, you imbeciles!
RAAA
Ee-eek!!
RA
TA
TA
TA
My... my suit!!
Aaa-argh!!
HUFF
WHEEZE
AHHH
AHHH
Gah!!
WHUMP
...

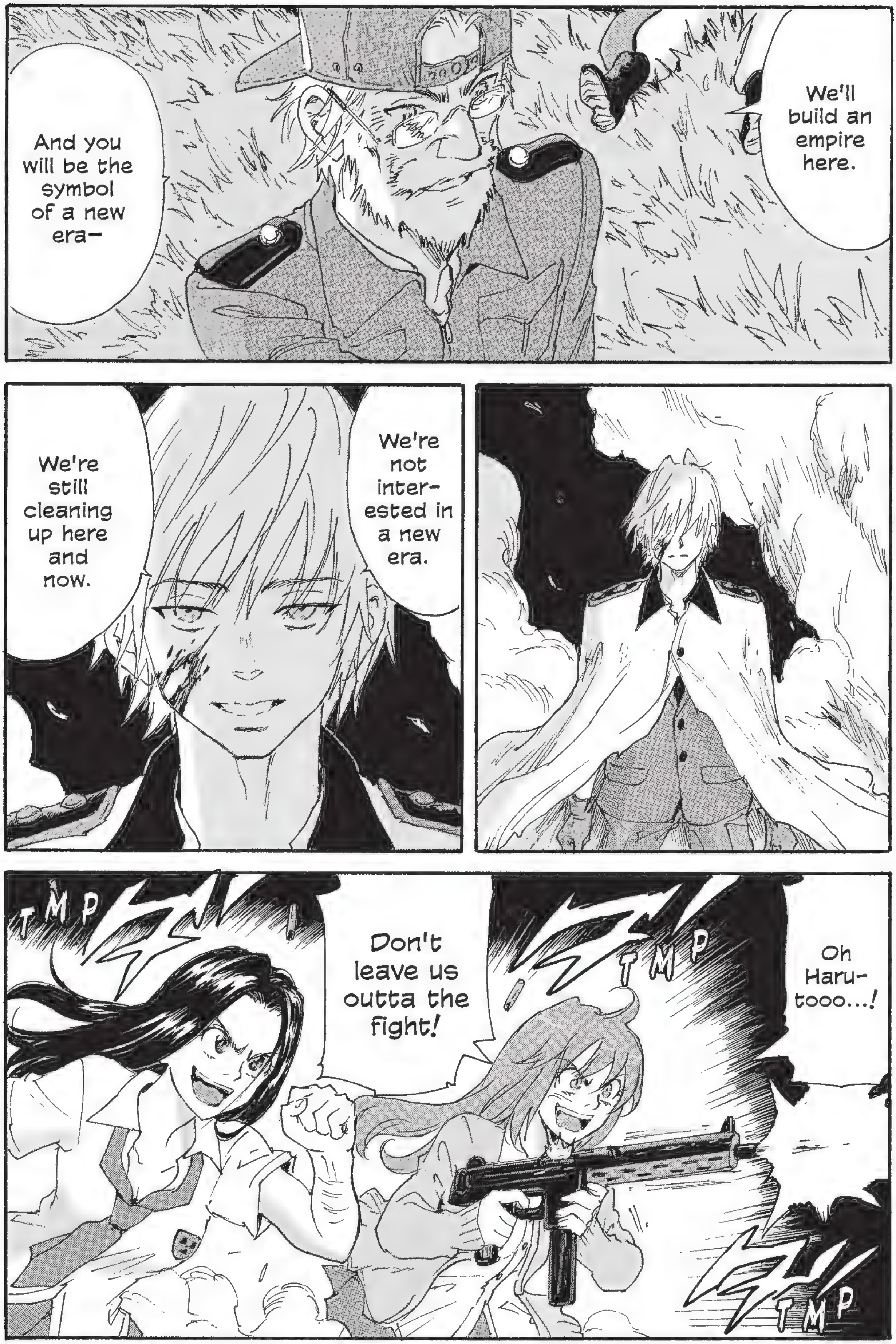

Crap...! That's *my* prey they're pickin' off!
Look!
RRRMM
RRRMM
They're taking off!
But most of 'em aren't even on board...!
Unhand me, you fools!
FWAP
Stay down there! Die like the insects you are!
BAM
?!
FVVT
OH, YES, ABOUT THOSE MICRO-CHIPS IN THEIR BRAINS...
YOU HAVEN'T FORGOT-TEN THAT THOSE WERE *MY* INVENTION, HAVE YOU?

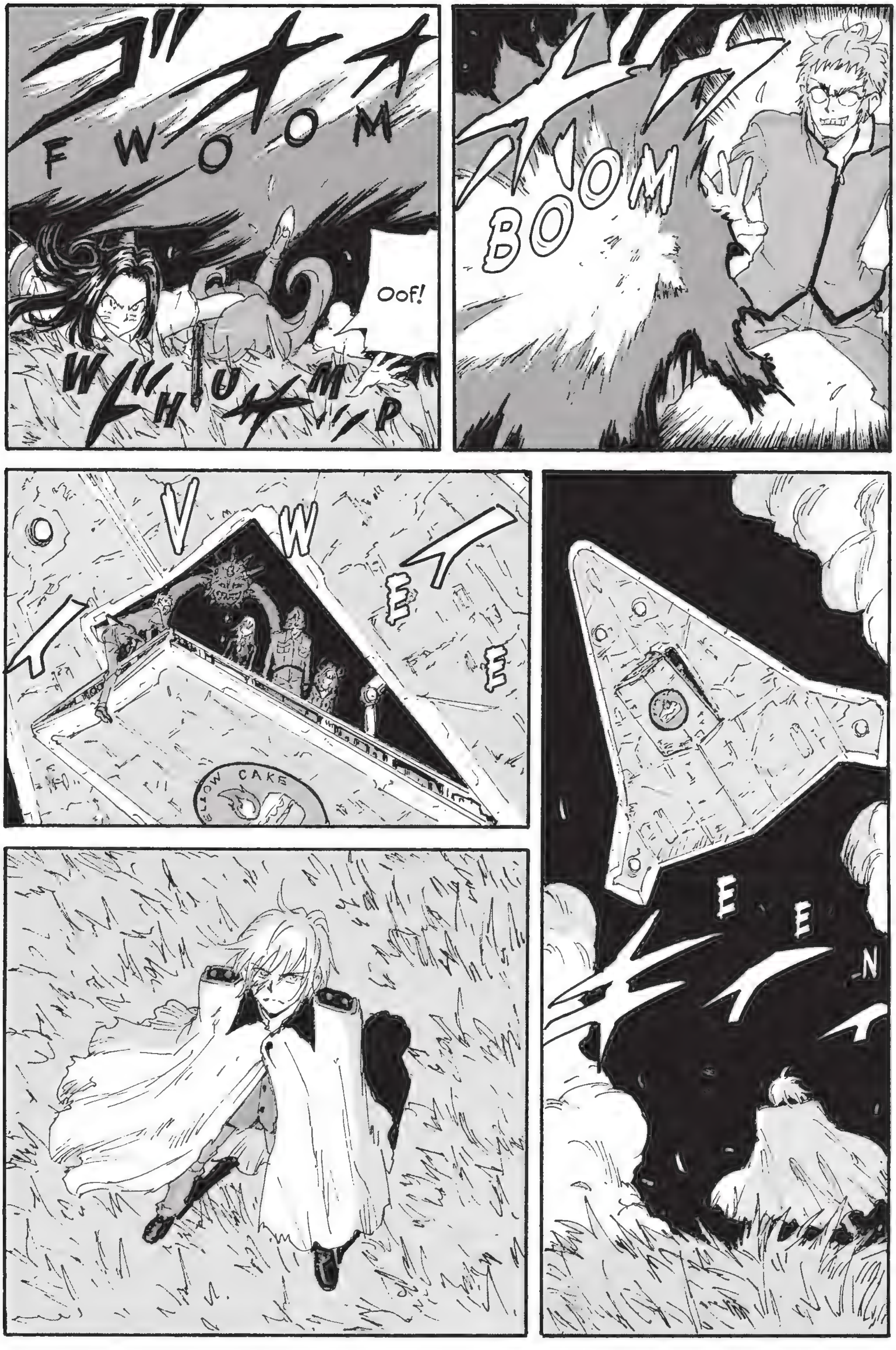

I RESET THEM.
THE RETRIEVAL UNIT IS *ALREADY FREE.*
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
W... Wait! I was only following orders, I swear!
Do you want money? I can give you as much as you want! Yellow Cake is loaded!
VRRR
RE
ENT
Ah.
FWMP
KRNCH

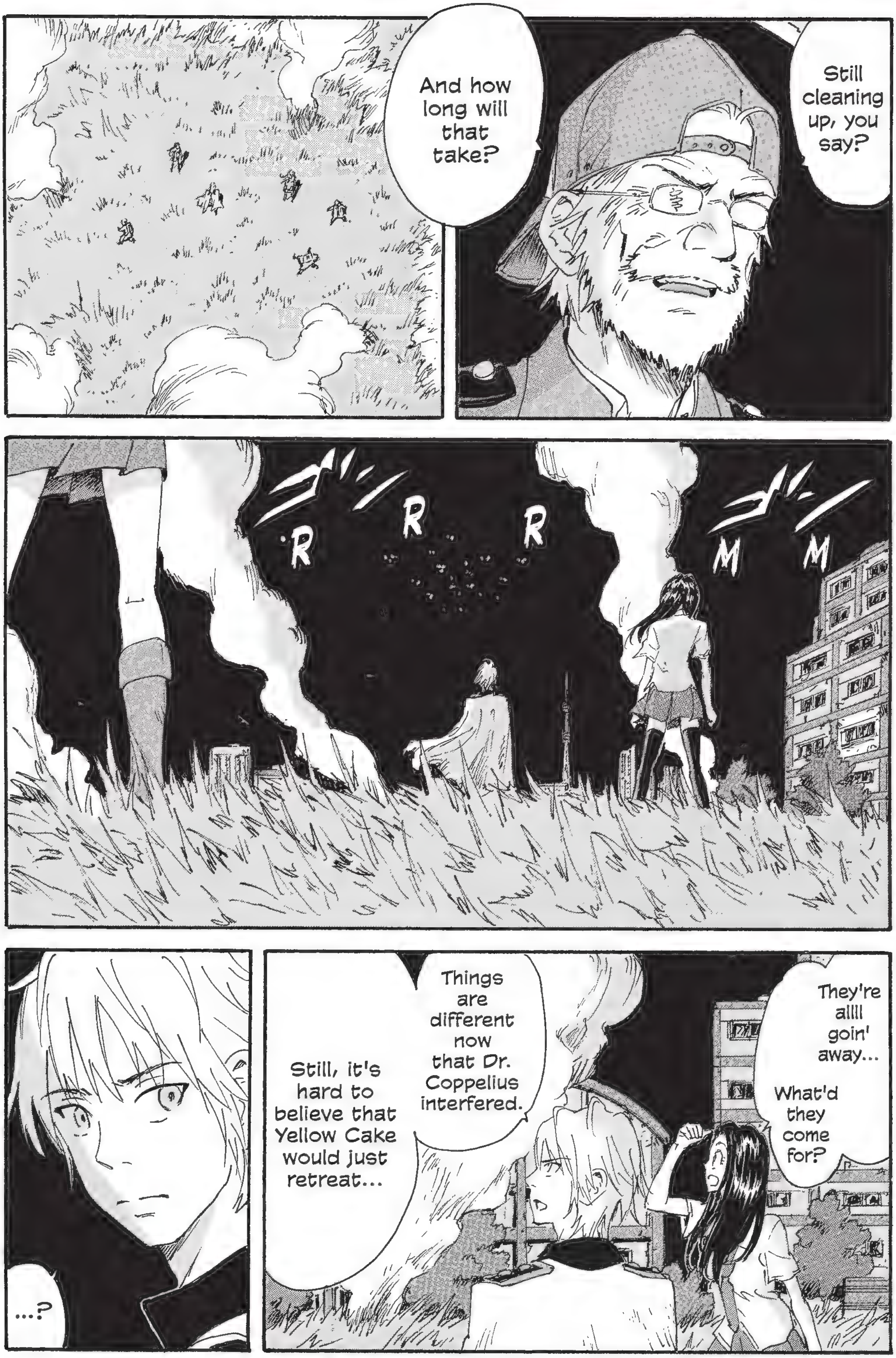

RRRMM
I have to... I have to hold my breath or...!
Urgh... someone... help...!
HUFF WHEEZE
FWAP
?!
BWEEM
KABOOM
Haruto ...?!
This way!
?!
GRAB
KRISSH

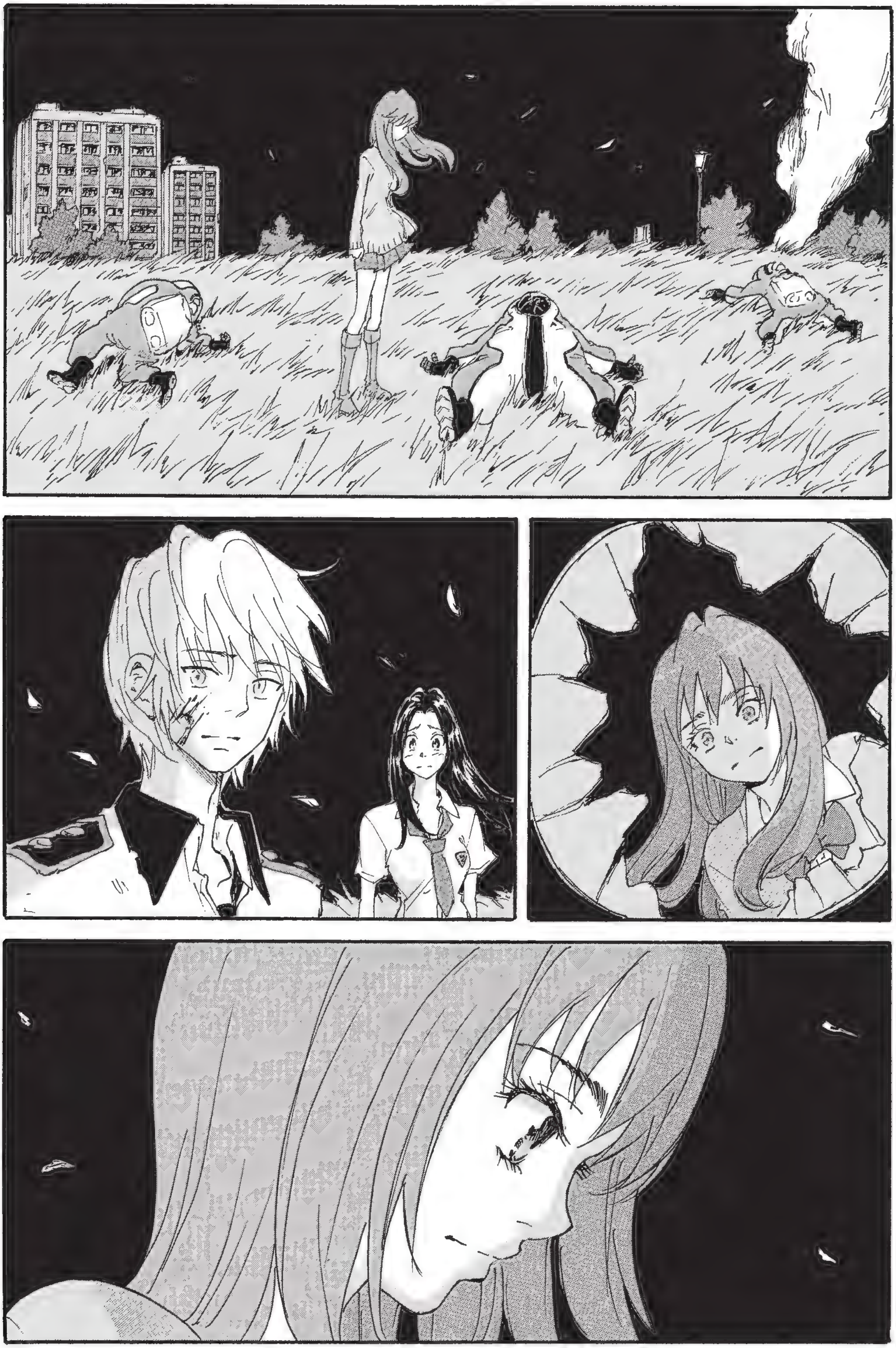

PSSSSSSSH
グタ…
FWMP
Yo!
FWOOOOM
So, we meet again!
You...!
That's as far as you go, Haruto.

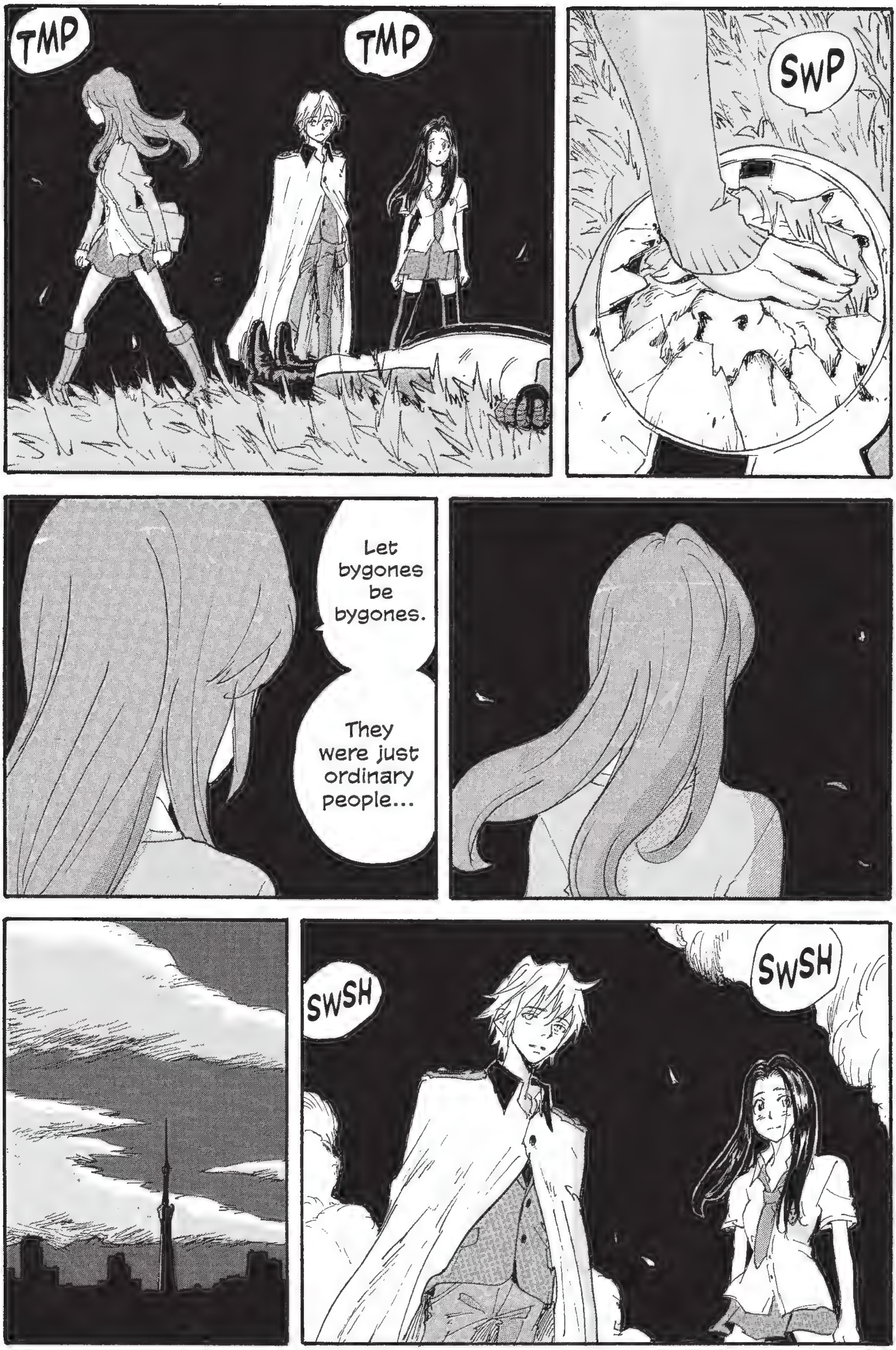

You'll be coming with us.
My grand plan has entered its final phase...
...and I'm in need of your assistance.
We no longer have reason to fight.
The Retrieval Unit says they're going to help me, too.

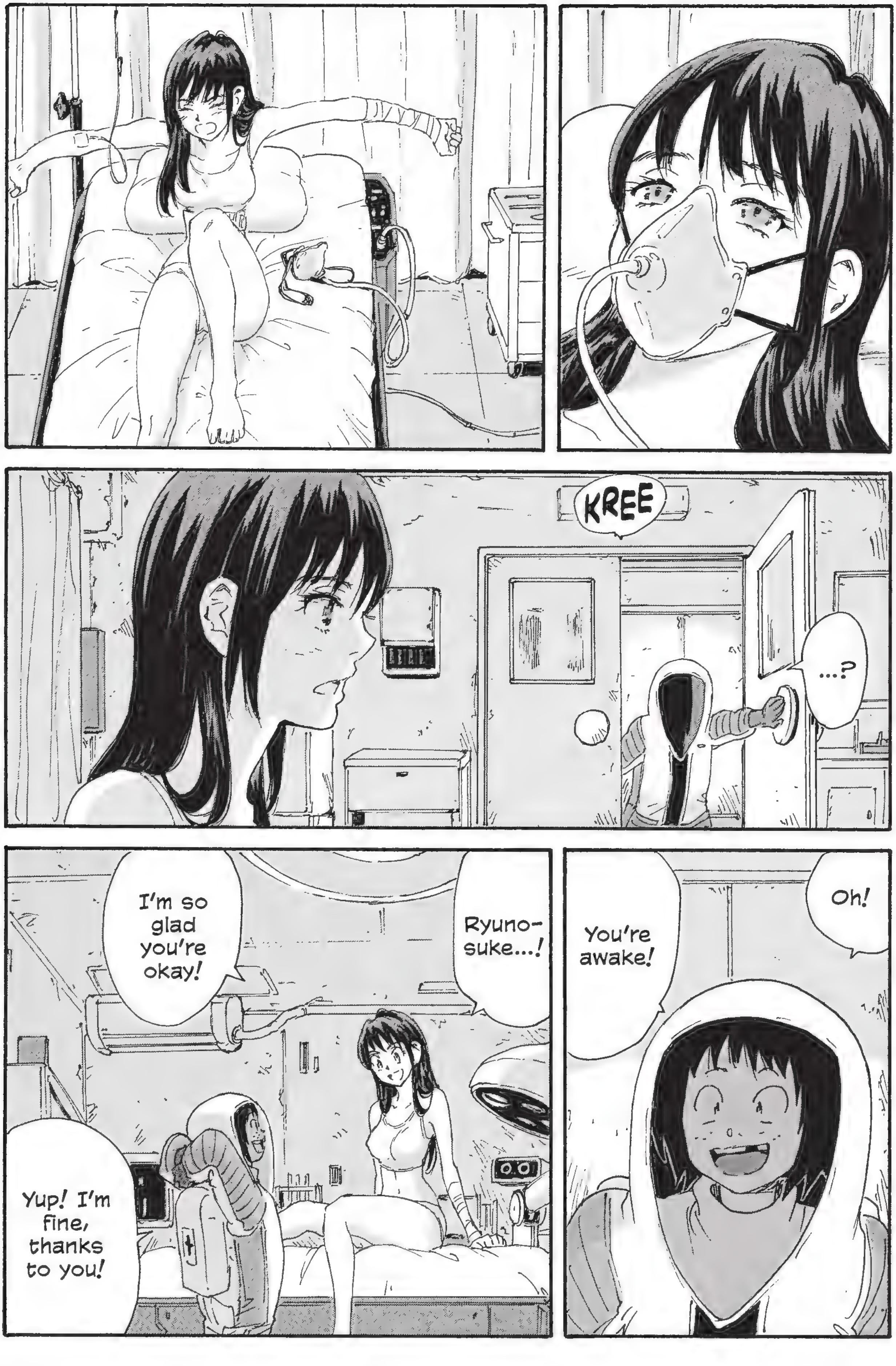

We'll build an empire here.
And you will be the symbol of a new era–
We're not interested in a new era.
We're still cleaning up here and now.
Oh Harutooo...!
TMP
Don't leave us outta the fight!
TMP
TMP

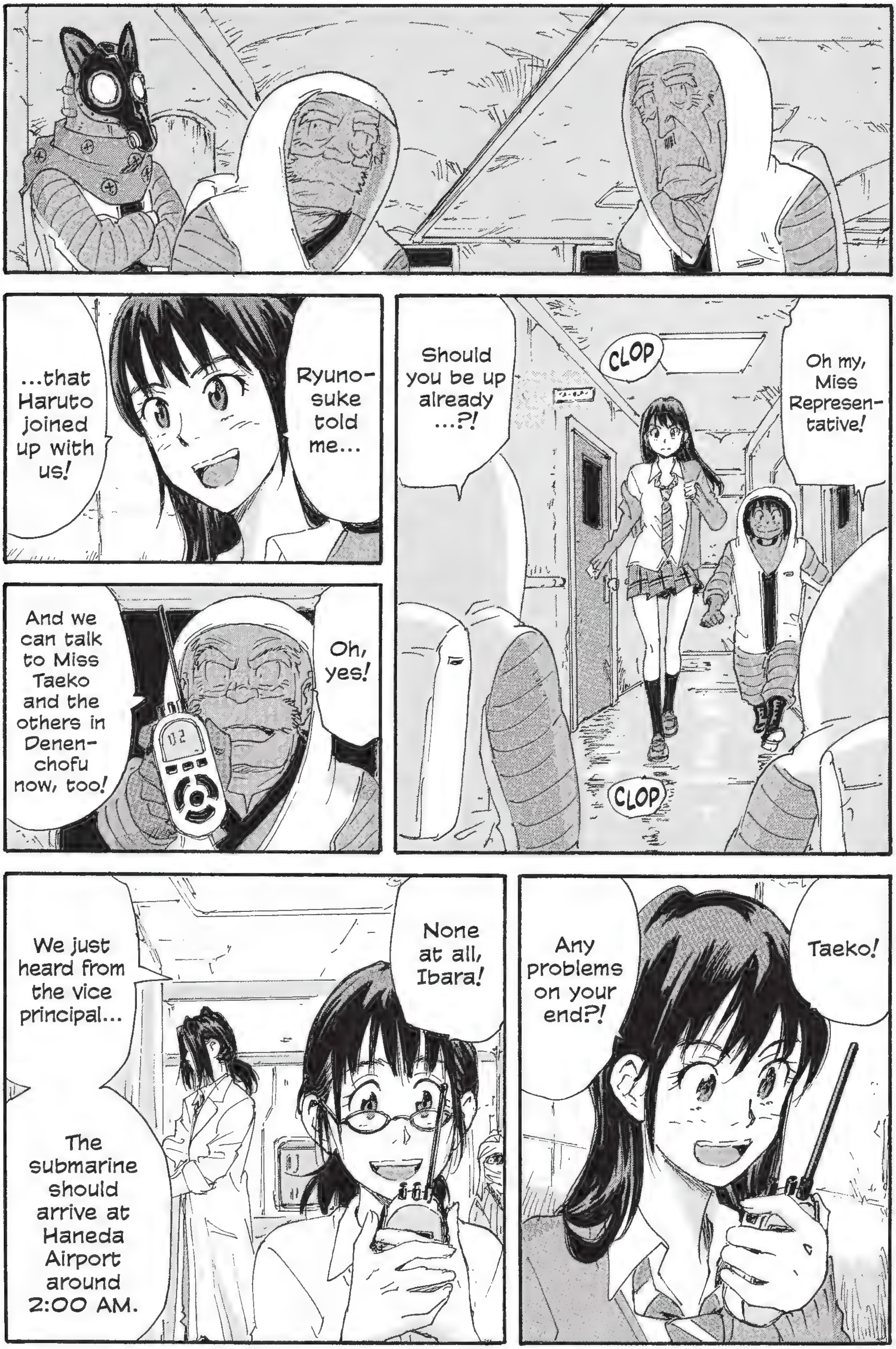

ゴオオ
FWOOM
Oof!
WHUMP
BOOM
VWEE
ELLOW CAKE
EEN

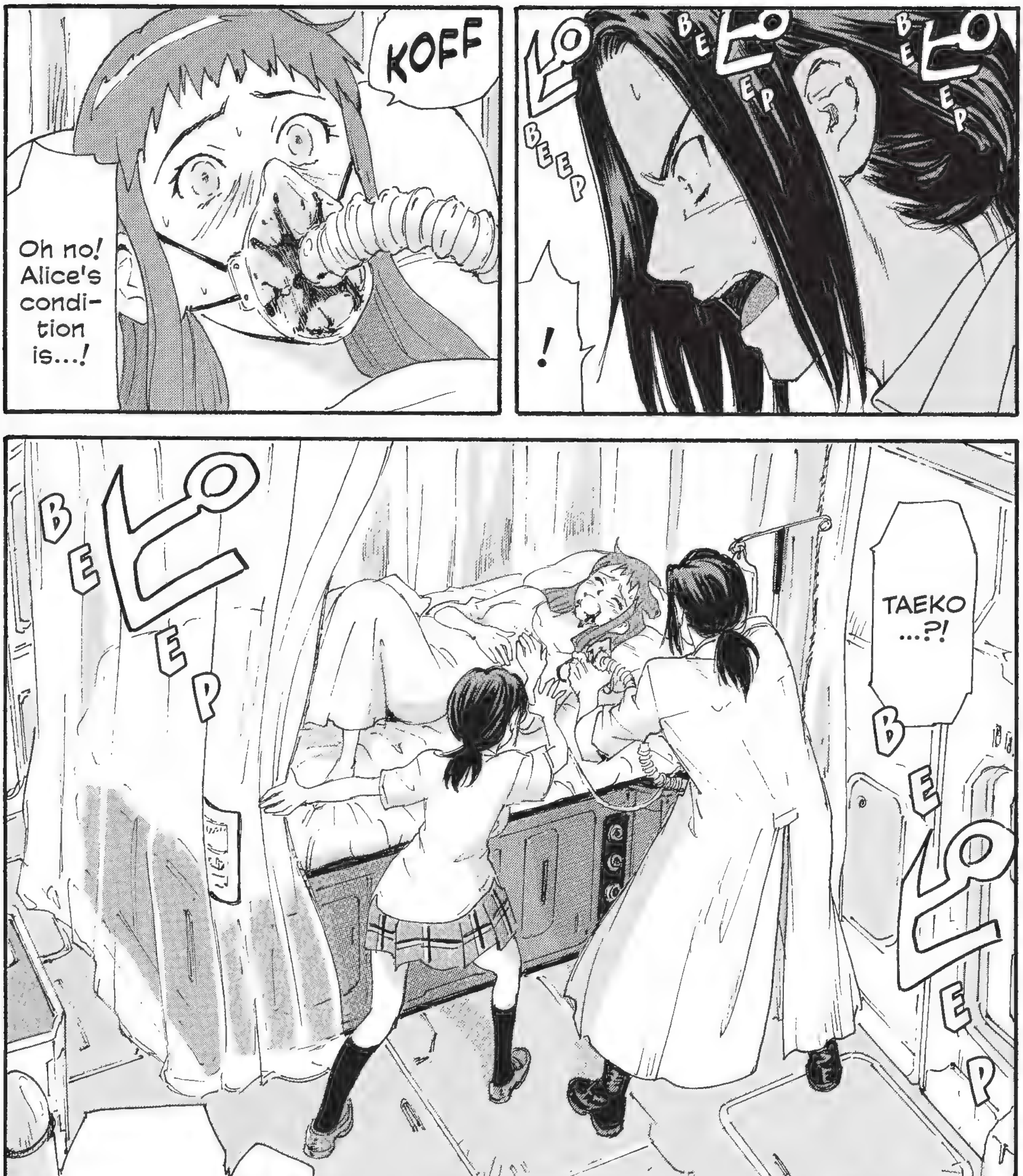

Still cleaning up, you say?
And how long will that take?
R R R
M M
They're allll goin' away...
What'd they come for?
Things are different now that Dr. Coppelius interfered.
Still, it's hard to believe that Yellow Cake would just retreat...
...?



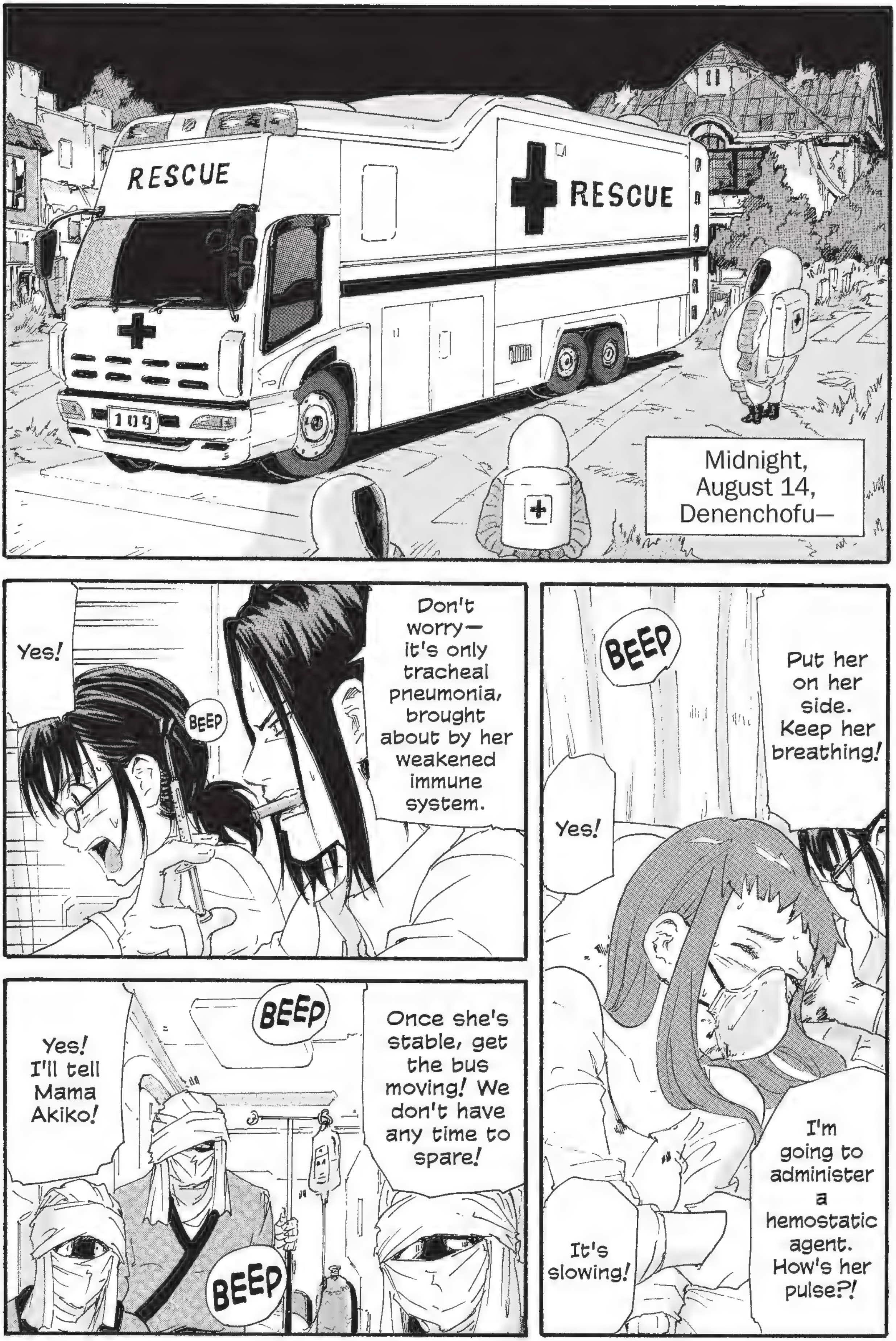

SWP
TMP
TMP
Let bygones be bygones.
They were just ordinary people...
SWSH
SWSH

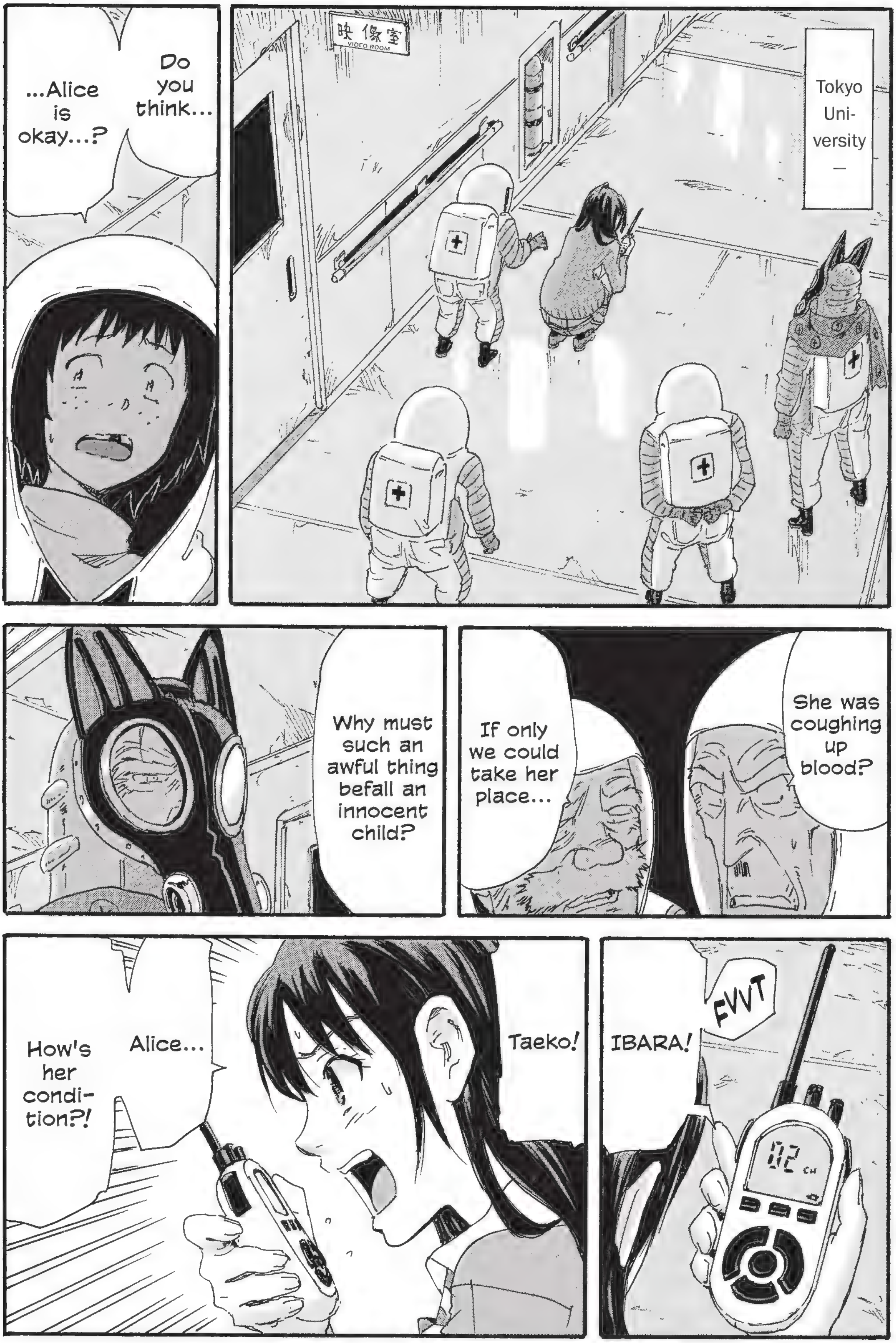

KREE
...?
Oh!
You're awake!
Ryunosuke...!
I'm so glad you're okay!
Yup! I'm fine, thanks to you!

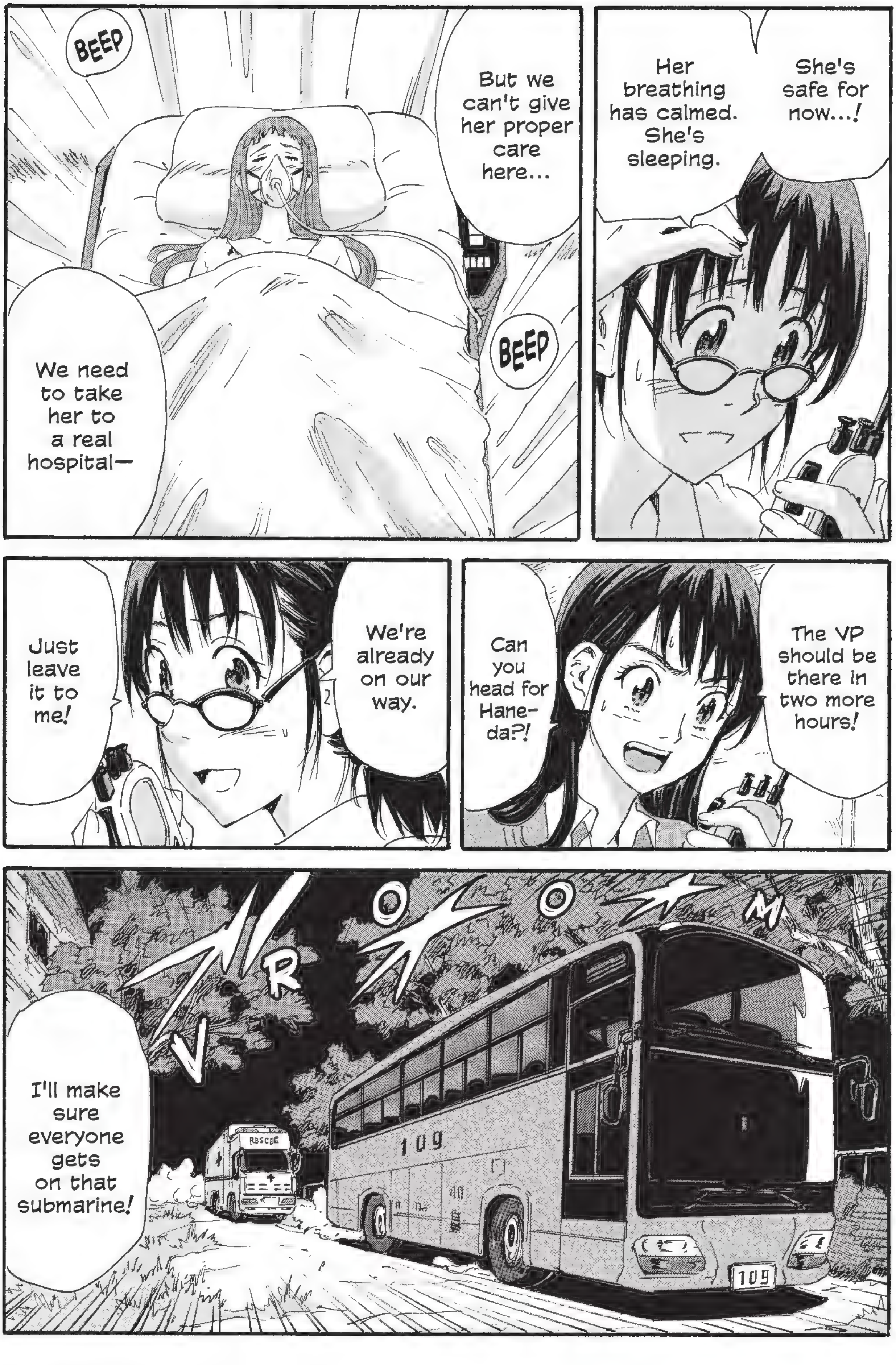

Oh my, Miss Representative!
CLOP
Should you be up already...?!
CLOP
Ryunosuke told me...
...that Haruto joined up with us!
Oh, yes!
And we can talk to Miss Taeko and the others in Denenchofu now, too!
Taeko!
Any problems on your end?!
None at all, Ibara!
We just heard from the vice principal...
The submarine should arrive at Haneda Airport around 2:00 AM.

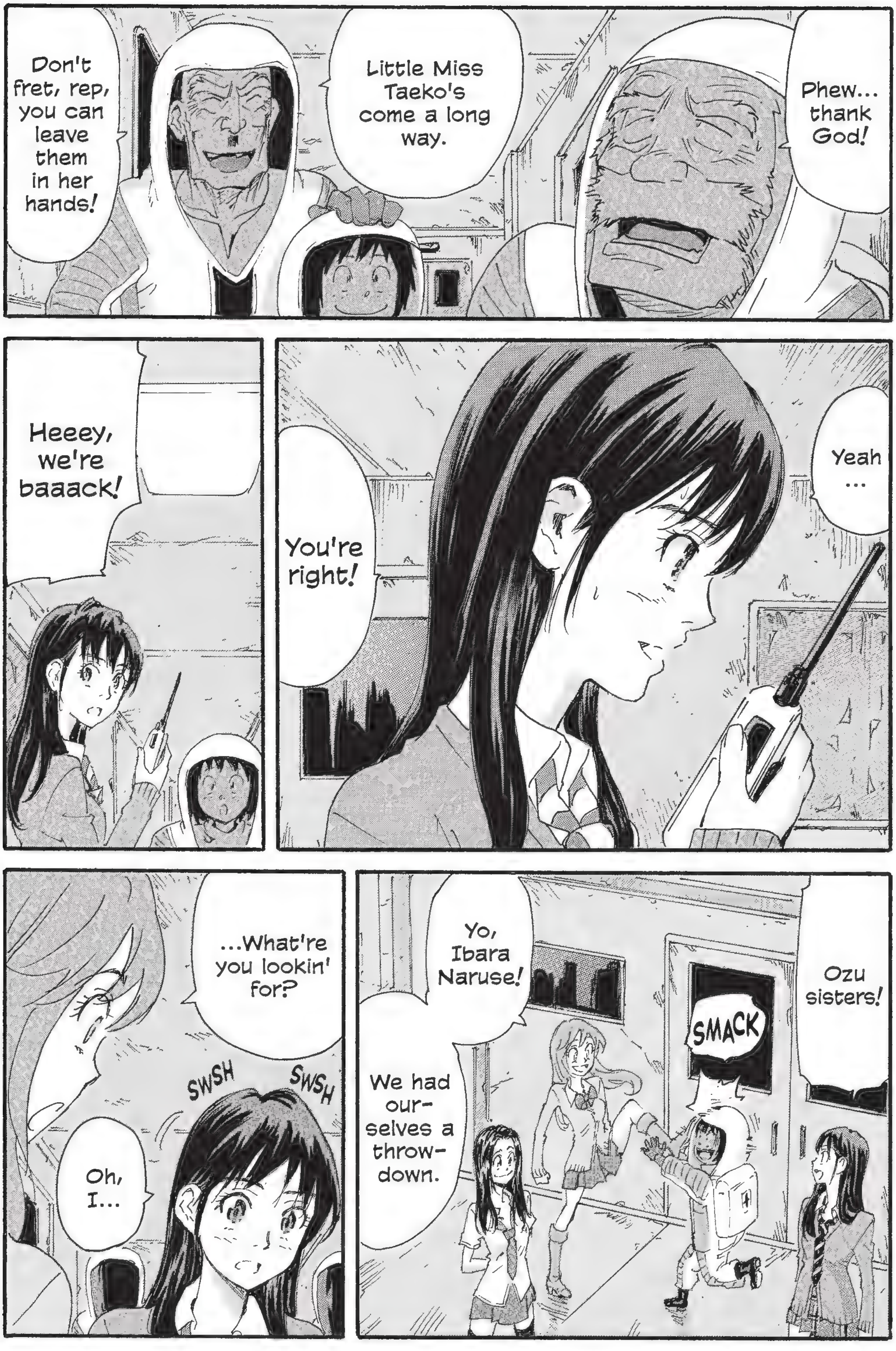

ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
!
KOFF
Oh no! Alice's condition is...!
TAEKO ...?!
ピ BEEP
ピ BEEP
TAEKO, COME IN...!
FVVT
ピ BEEP
A-16 END

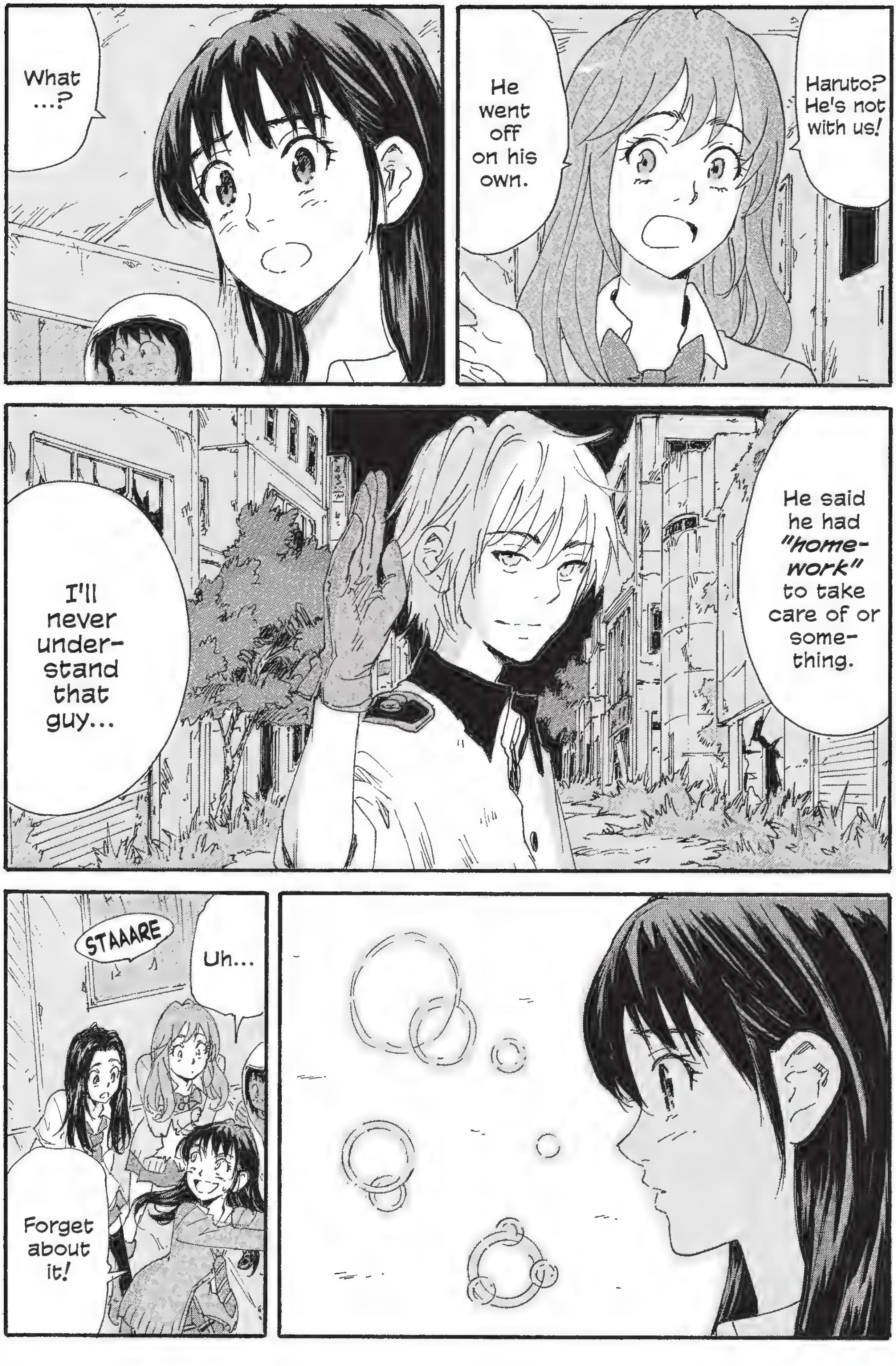
Act.17【Roll Out!】

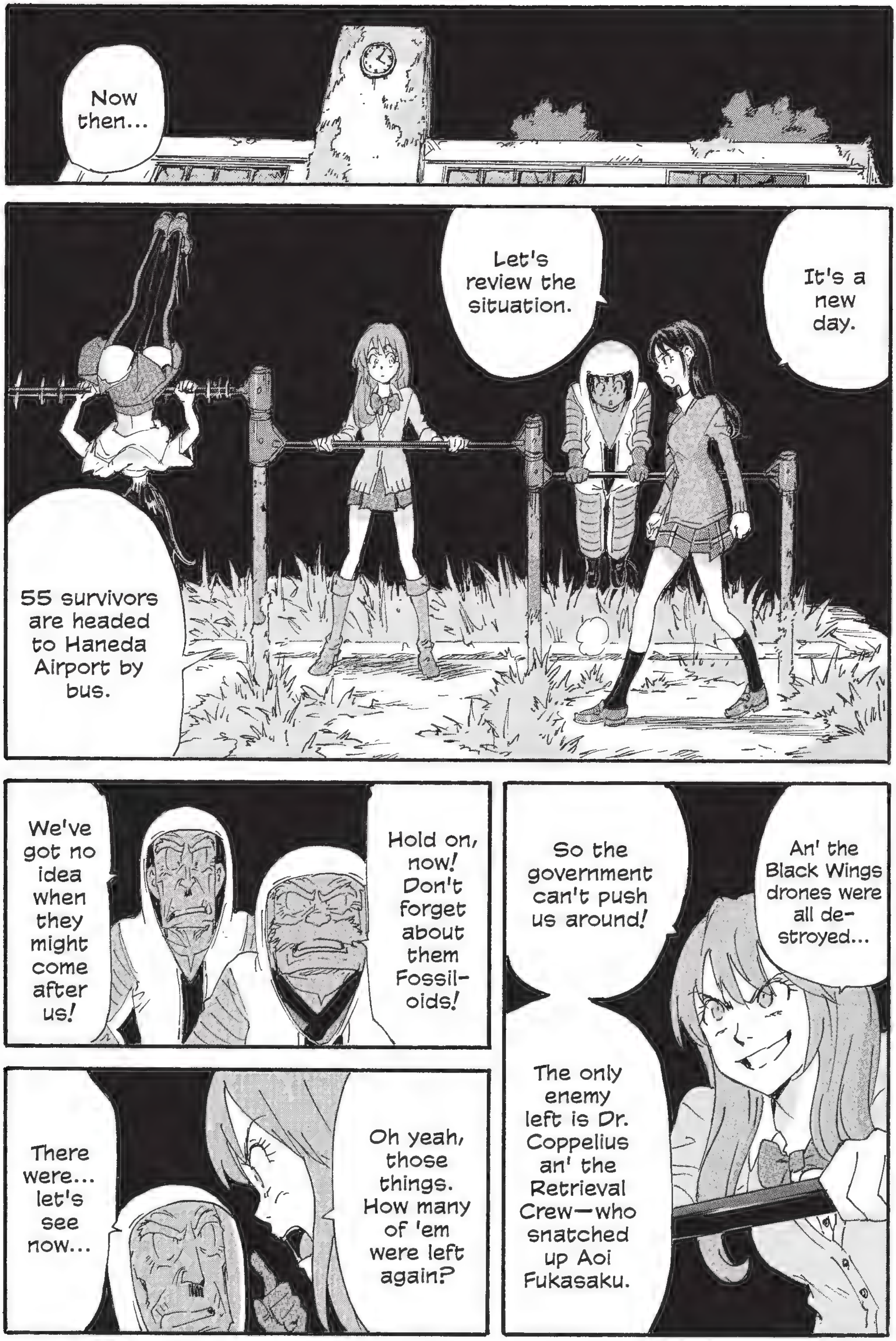

RESCUE
RESCUE
109
Midnight, August 14, Denenchofu—
BEEP
Put her on her side. Keep her breathing!
Yes!
I'm going to administer a hemostatic agent. How's her pulse?!
It's slowing!
Don't worry—it's only tracheal pneumonia, brought about by her weakened immune system.
BEEP
Yes!
BEEP
Once she's stable, get the bus moving! We don't have any time to spare!
Yes! I'll tell Mama Akiko!
BEEP

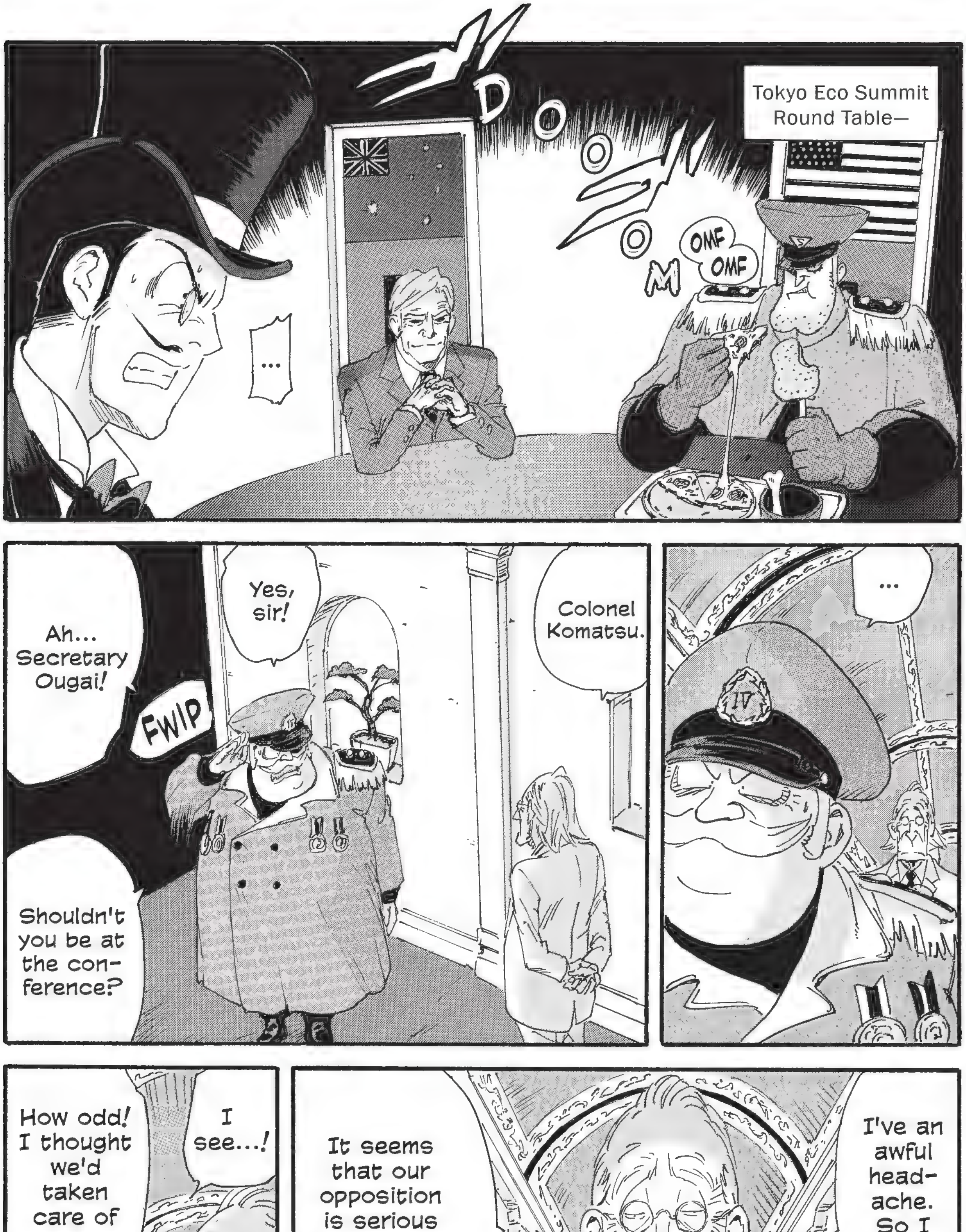

Tokyo University —
映像室
VIDEO ROOM
Do you think…
…Alice is okay…?
She was coughing up blood?
If only we could take her place…
Why must such an awful thing befall an innocent child?
IBARA!
FVVT
02 CH
Taeko!
Alice…
How's her condition?!

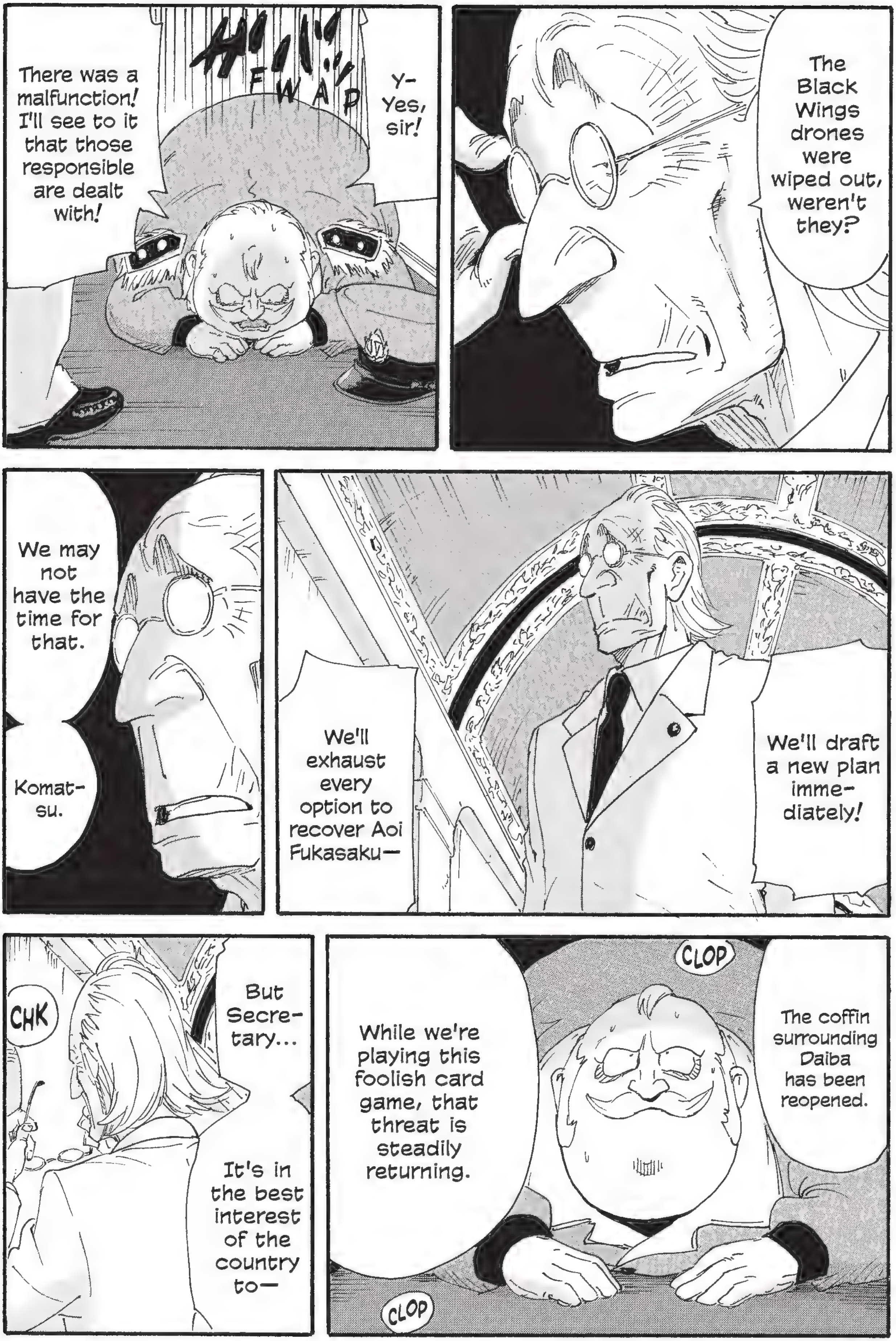

She's safe for now...!
Her breathing has calmed. She's sleeping.
BEEP
But we can't give her proper care here...
BEEP
We need to take her to a real hospital—
The VP should be there in two more hours!
Can you head for Haneda?!
We're already on our way.
Just leave it to me!
VROOOM
RESCUE
109
109
I'll make sure everyone gets on that submarine!

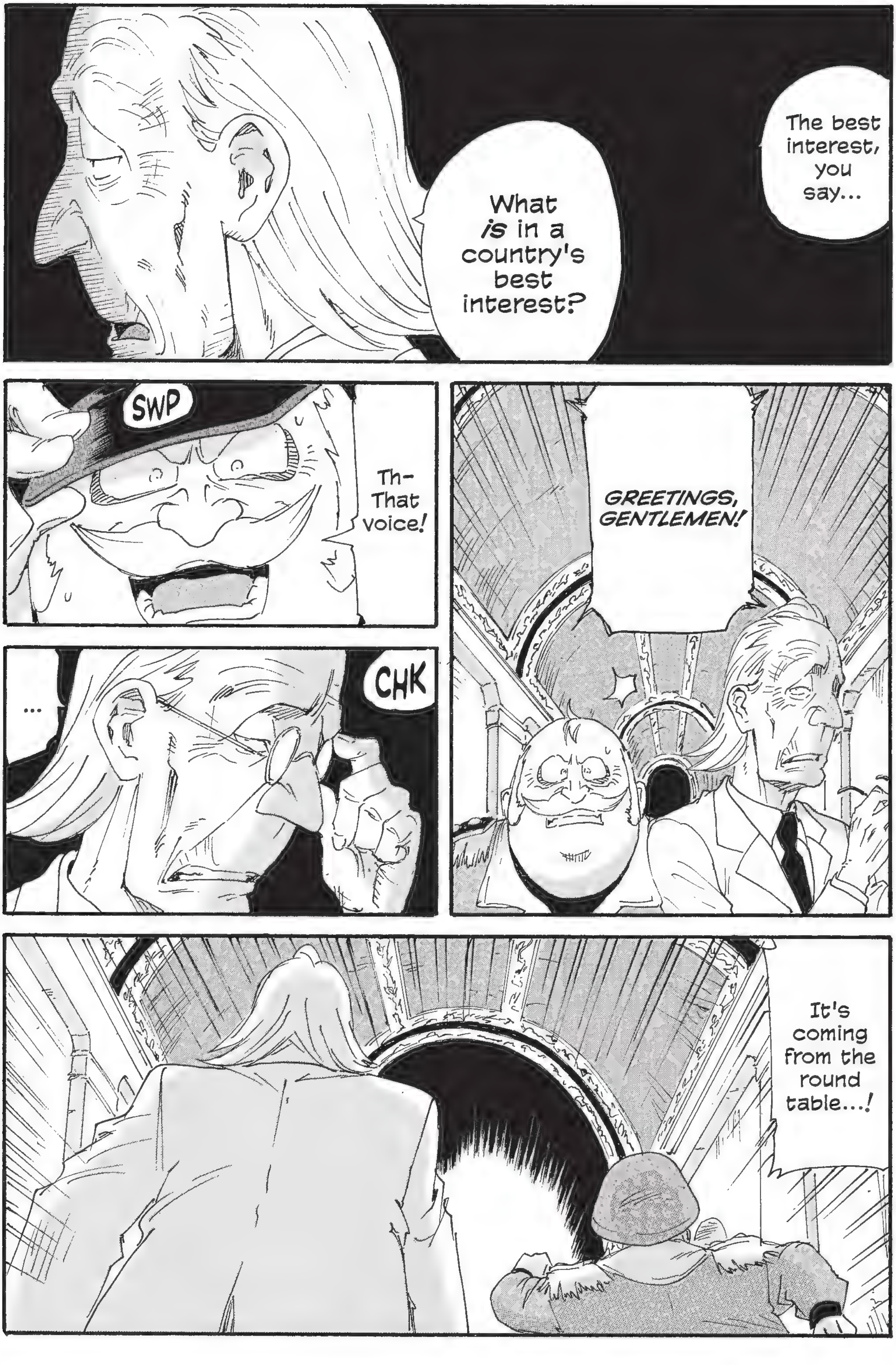

Phew... thank God!
Little Miss Taeko's come a long way.
Don't fret, rep, you can leave them in her hands!
Yeah ...
You're right!
Heeey, we're baaack!
Ozu sisters!
SMACK
Yo, Ibara Naruse!
We had ourselves a throwdown.
...What're you lookin' for?
SWSH
SWSH
Oh, I...

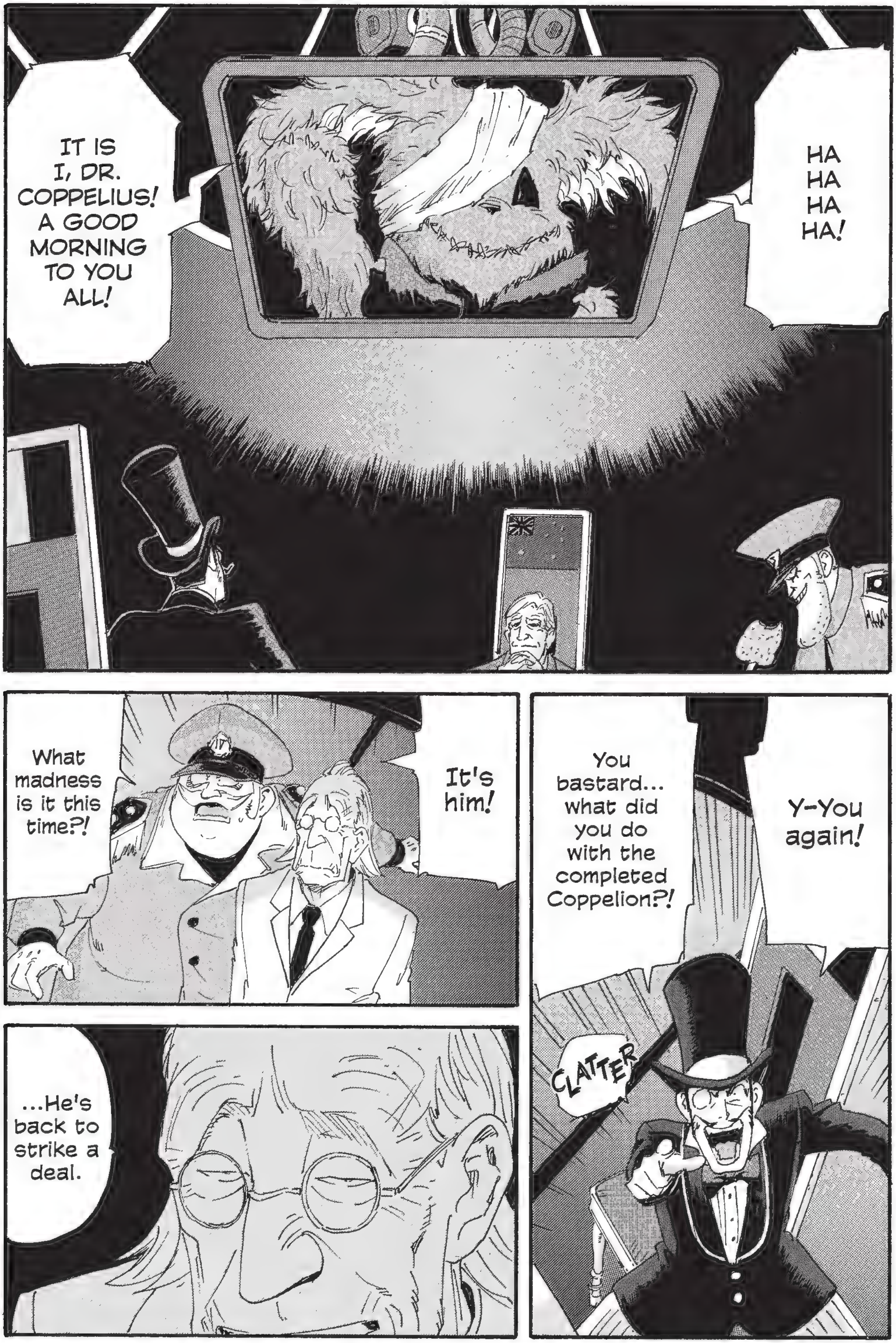

Haruto? He's not with us!
He went off on his own.
What ...?
He said he had *"homework"* to take care of or something.
I'll never understand that guy...
Uh...
STAAARE
Forget about it!

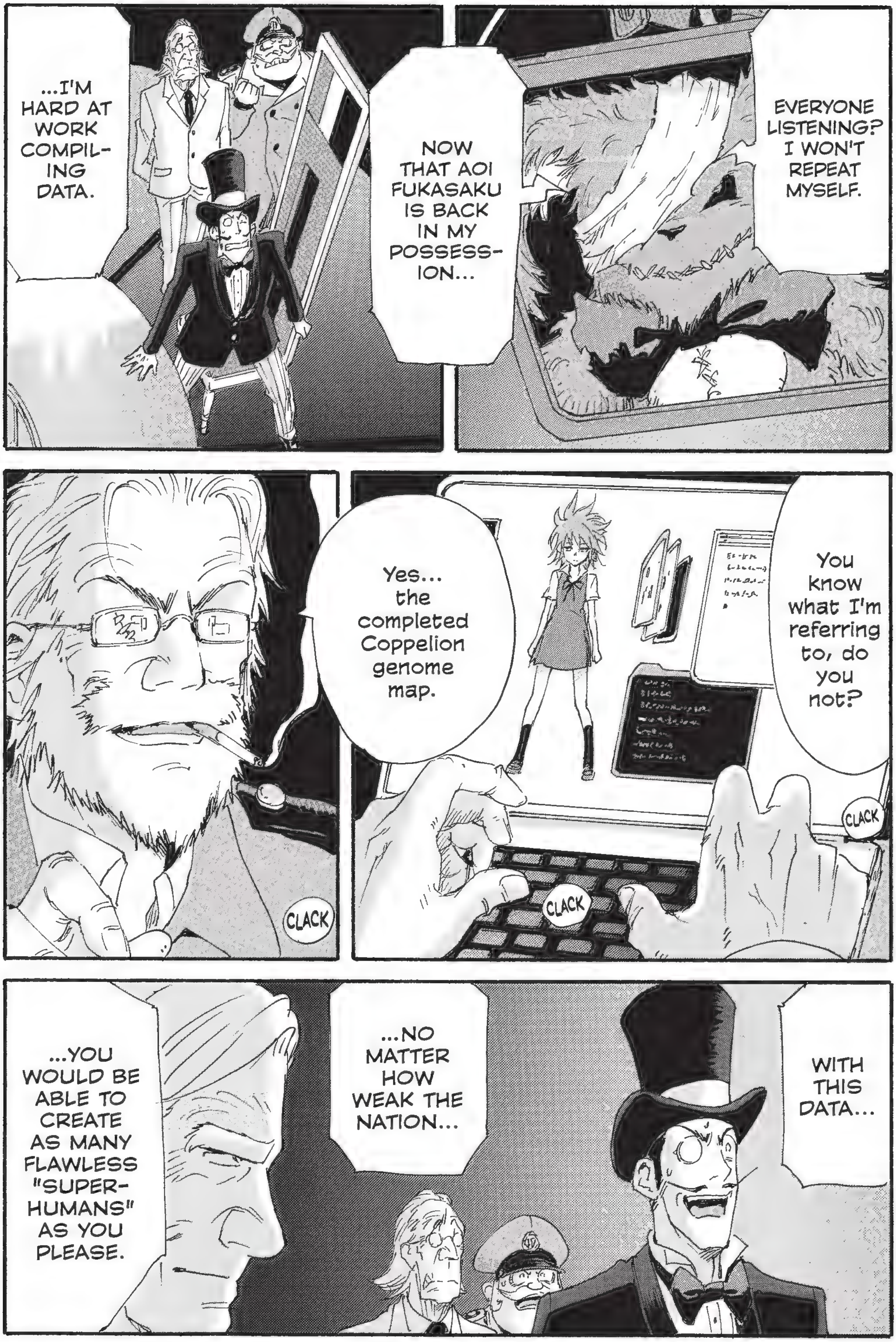

Now then...
It's a new day.
Let's review the situation.
55 survivors are headed to Haneda Airport by bus.
An' the Black Wings drones were all destroyed...
So the government can't push us around!
The only enemy left is Dr. Coppelius an' the Retrieval Crew—who snatched up Aoi Fukasaku.
Hold on, now! Don't forget about them Fossiloids!
We've got no idea when they might come after us!
Oh yeah, those things. How many of 'em were left again?
There were... let's see now...

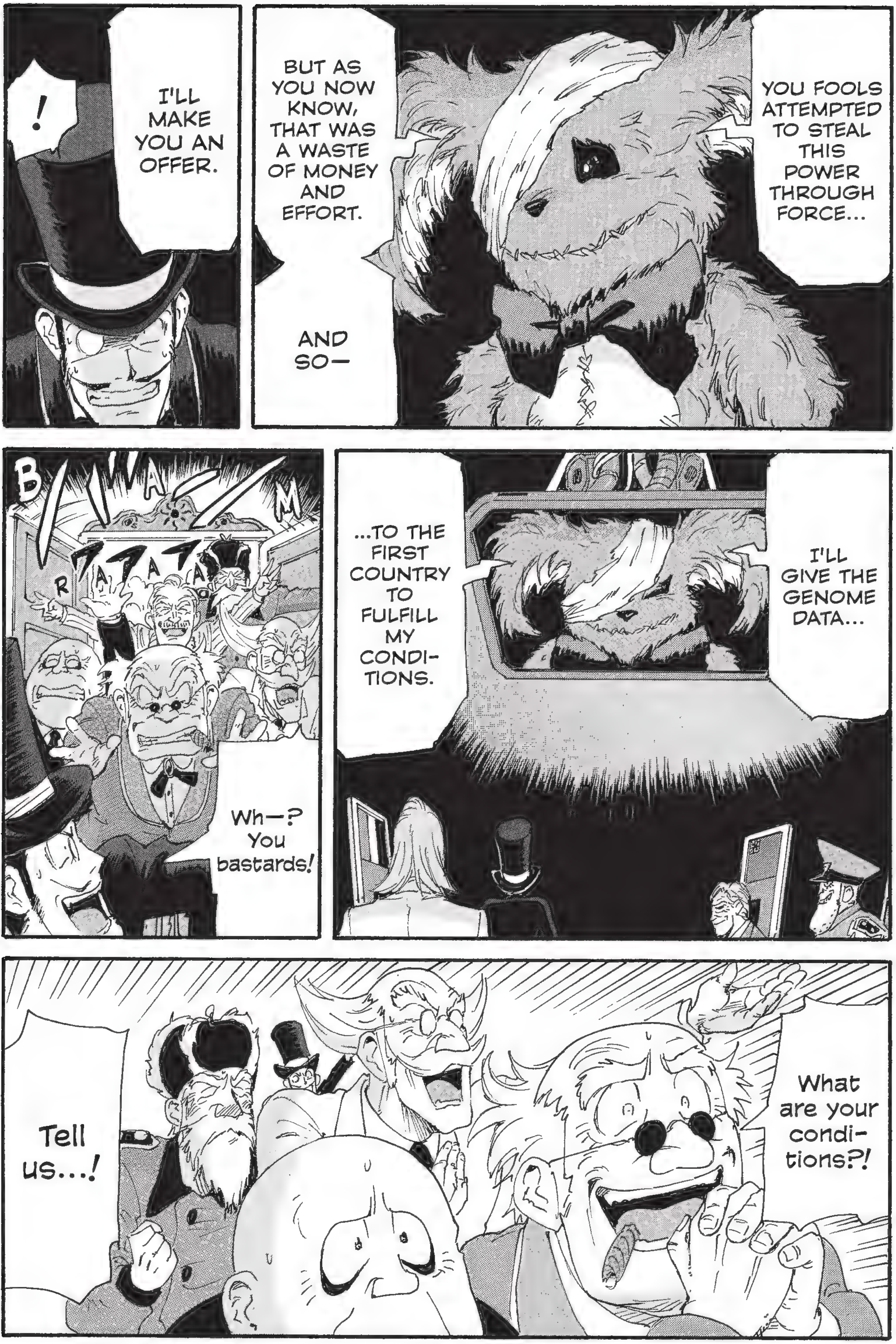

Tokyo Eco Summit Round Table—
DOOOOM
OMF OMF
...
...
Colonel Komatsu.
Yes, sir!
Ah... Secretary Ougai!
FWIP
Shouldn't you be at the conference?
I've an awful headache. So I stepped out.
It seems that our opposition is serious about moving for a vote of no-confidence today.
I see...!
How odd! I thought we'd taken care of that...

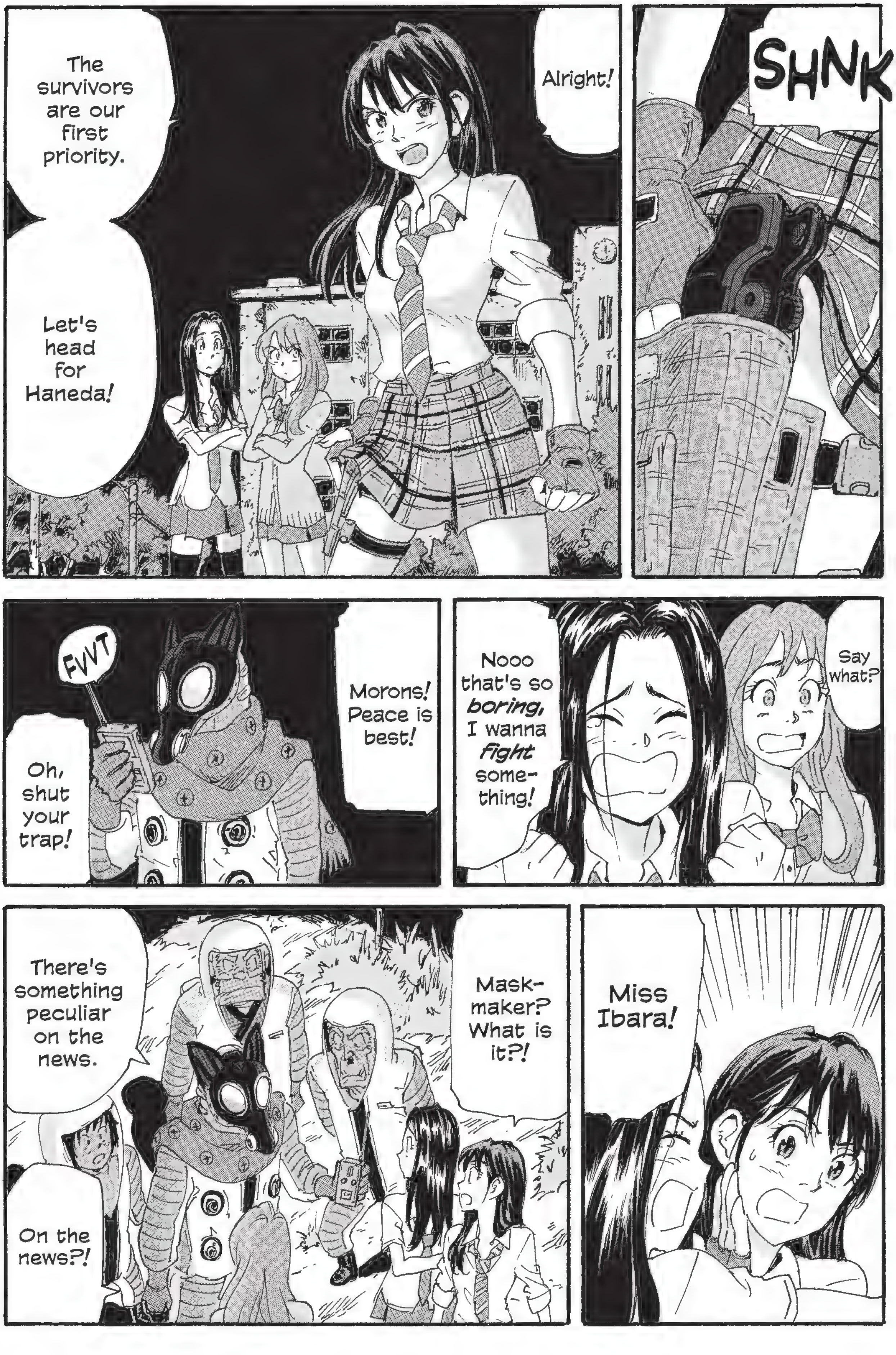

The Black Wings drones were wiped out, weren't they?
Y- Yes, sir!
FWAP
There was a malfunction! I'll see to it that those responsible are dealt with!
We'll draft a new plan immediately!
We'll exhaust every option to recover Aoi Fukasaku—
We may not have the time for that.
Komatsu.
CLOP
The coffin surrounding Daiba has been reopened.
While we're playing this foolish card game, that threat is steadily returning.
CLOP
But Secretary...
It's in the best interest of the country to—
CHK

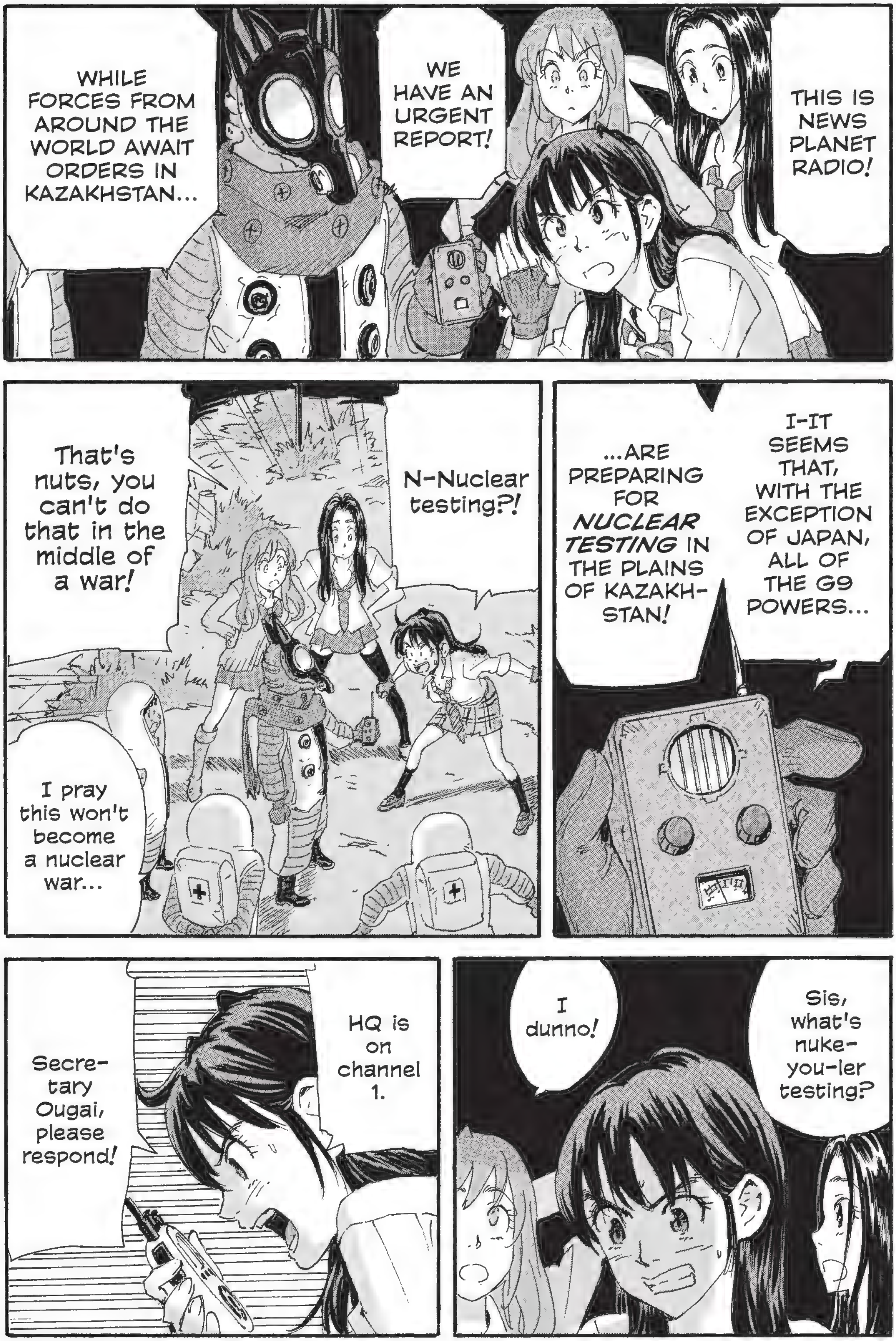

The best interest, you say...
What *is* in a country's best interest?
GREETINGS, GENTLEMEN!
SWP
Th- That voice!
CHK
...
It's coming from the round table...!

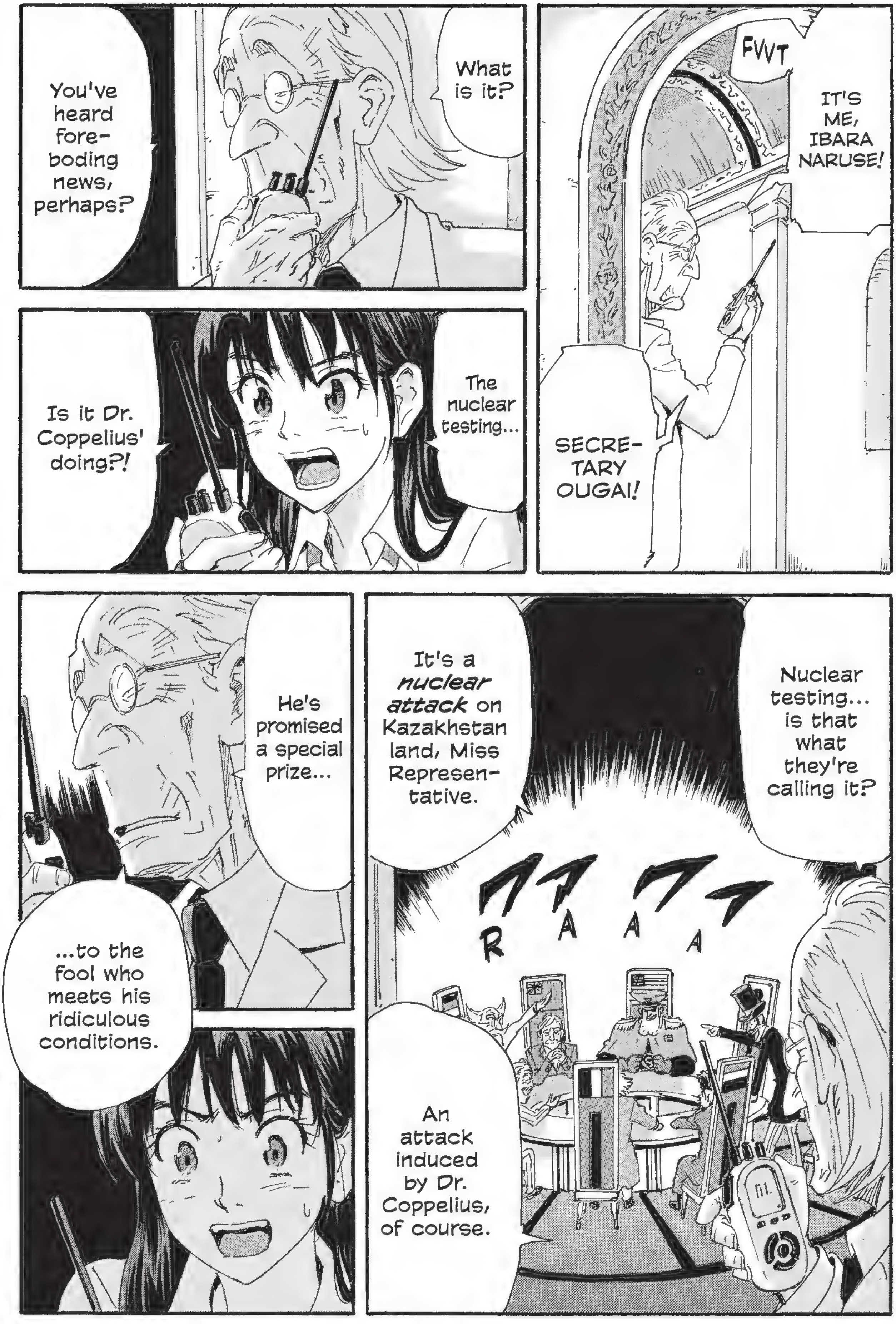

HA HA HA HA!
IT IS I, DR. COPPELIUS! A GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL!
Y-You again!
You bastard... what did you do with the completed Coppelion?!
CLATTER
It's him!
What madness is it this time?!
...He's back to strike a deal.

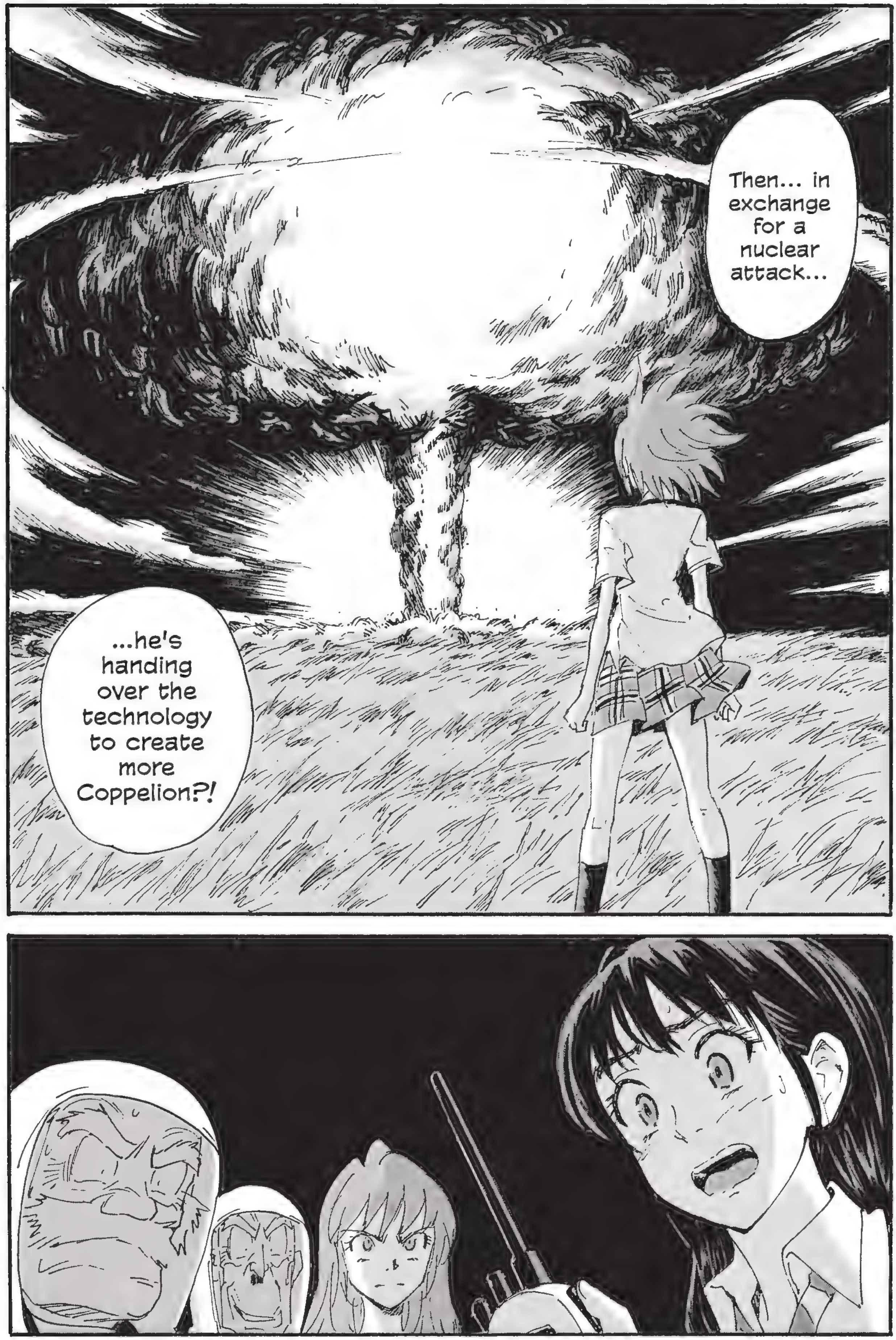

EVERYONE LISTENING? I WON'T REPEAT MYSELF.
NOW THAT AOI FUKASAKU IS BACK IN MY POSSESSION...
...I'M HARD AT WORK COMPILING DATA.
You know what I'm referring to, do you not?
CLACK
CLACK
Yes... the completed Coppelion genome map.
CLACK
WITH THIS DATA...
...NO MATTER HOW WEAK THE NATION...
...YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO CREATE AS MANY FLAWLESS "SUPER-HUMANS" AS YOU PLEASE.

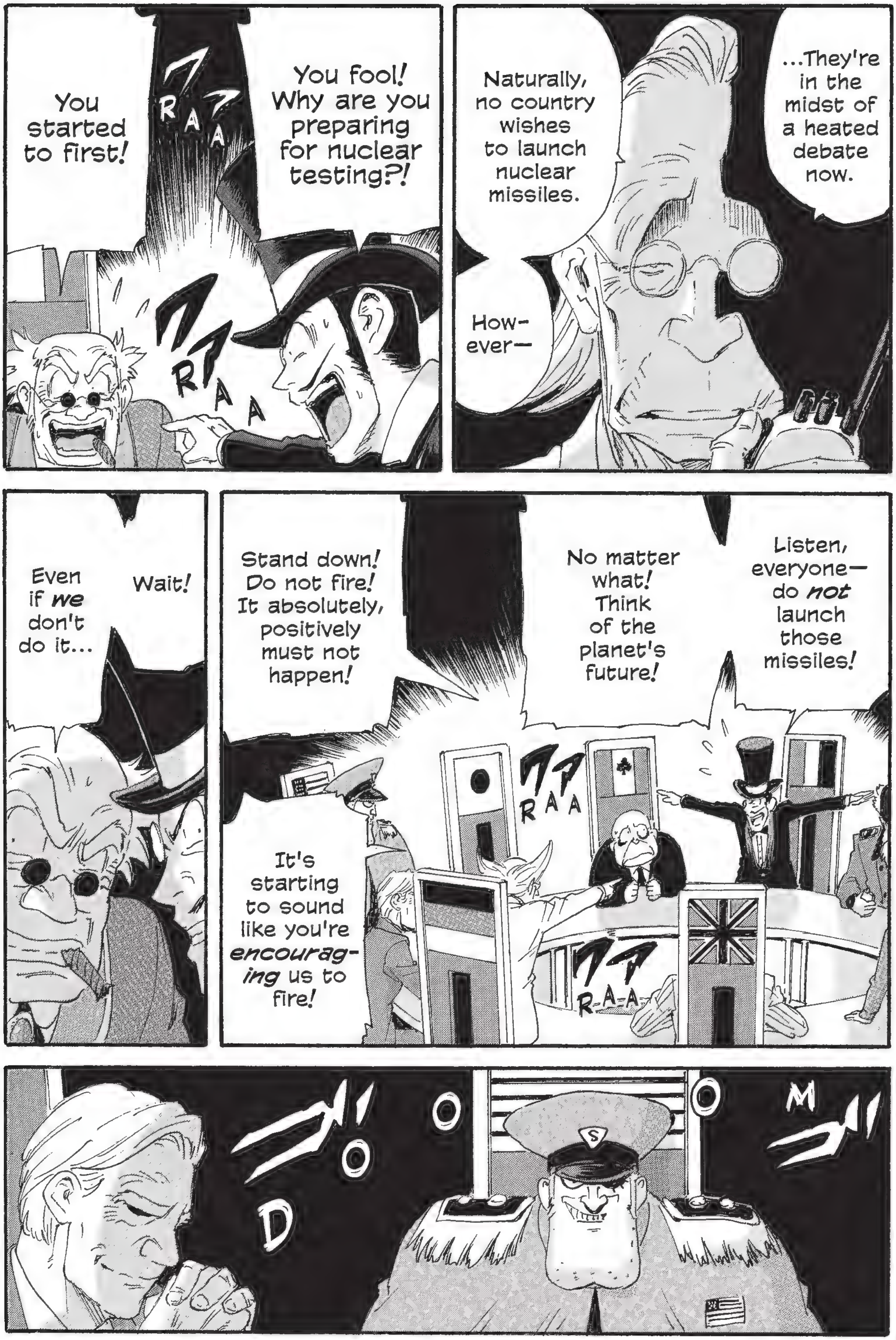

YOU FOOLS ATTEMPTED TO STEAL THIS POWER THROUGH FORCE...
BUT AS YOU NOW KNOW, THAT WAS A WASTE OF MONEY AND EFFORT.
AND SO—
I'LL MAKE YOU AN OFFER.
!
I'LL GIVE THE GENOME DATA...
...TO THE FIRST COUNTRY TO FULFILL MY CONDITIONS.
BWAM
RATATA
Wh—? You bastards!
What are your conditions?!
Tell us...!

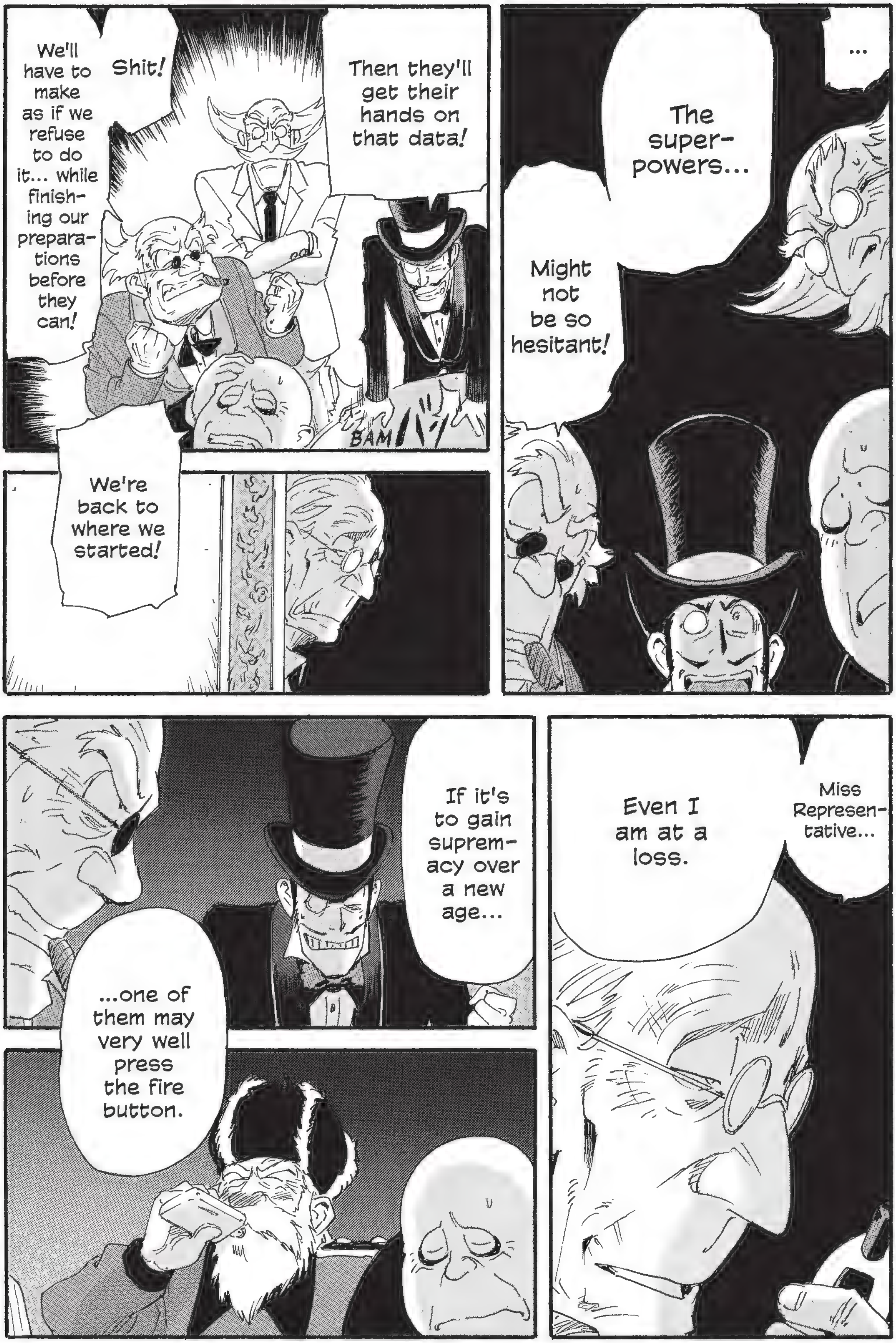

SHNK
Alright!
The survivors are our first priority.
Let's head for Haneda!
Say what?
Nooo that's so *boring*, I wanna *fight* something!
Morons! Peace is best!
FVVT
Oh, shut your trap!
Miss Ibara!
Mask-maker? What is it?!
There's something peculiar on the news.
On the news?!

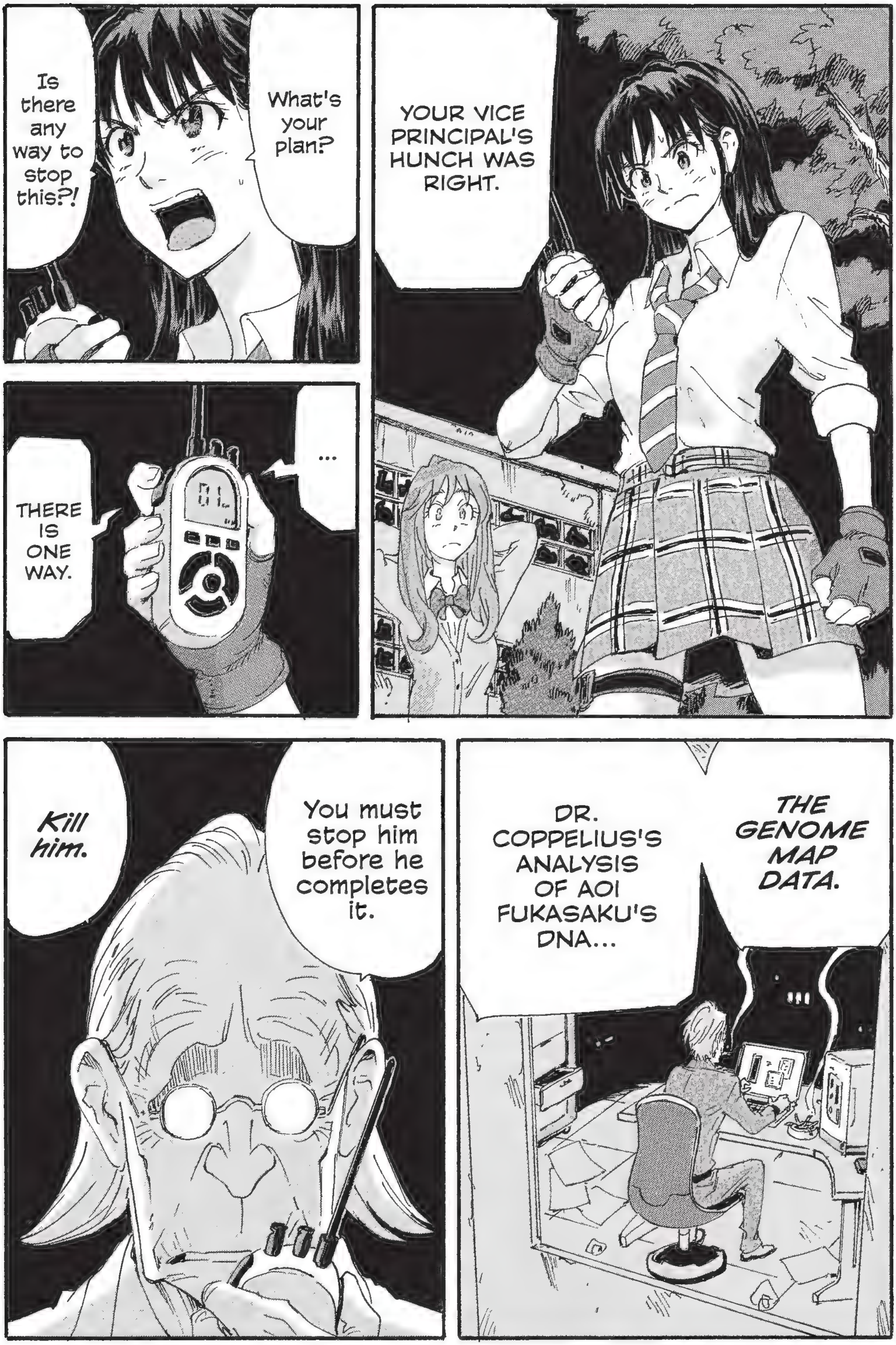

THIS IS NEWS PLANET RADIO!
WE HAVE AN URGENT REPORT!
WHILE FORCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD AWAIT ORDERS IN KAZAKHSTAN...
I-IT SEEMS THAT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JAPAN, ALL OF THE G9 POWERS...
...ARE PREPARING FOR NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE PLAINS OF KAZAKHSTAN!
N-Nuclear testing?!
That's nuts, you can't do that in the middle of a war!
I pray this won't become a nuclear war...
Sis, what's nuke-you-ler testing?
I dunno!
HQ is on channel 1.
Secretary Ougai, please respond!

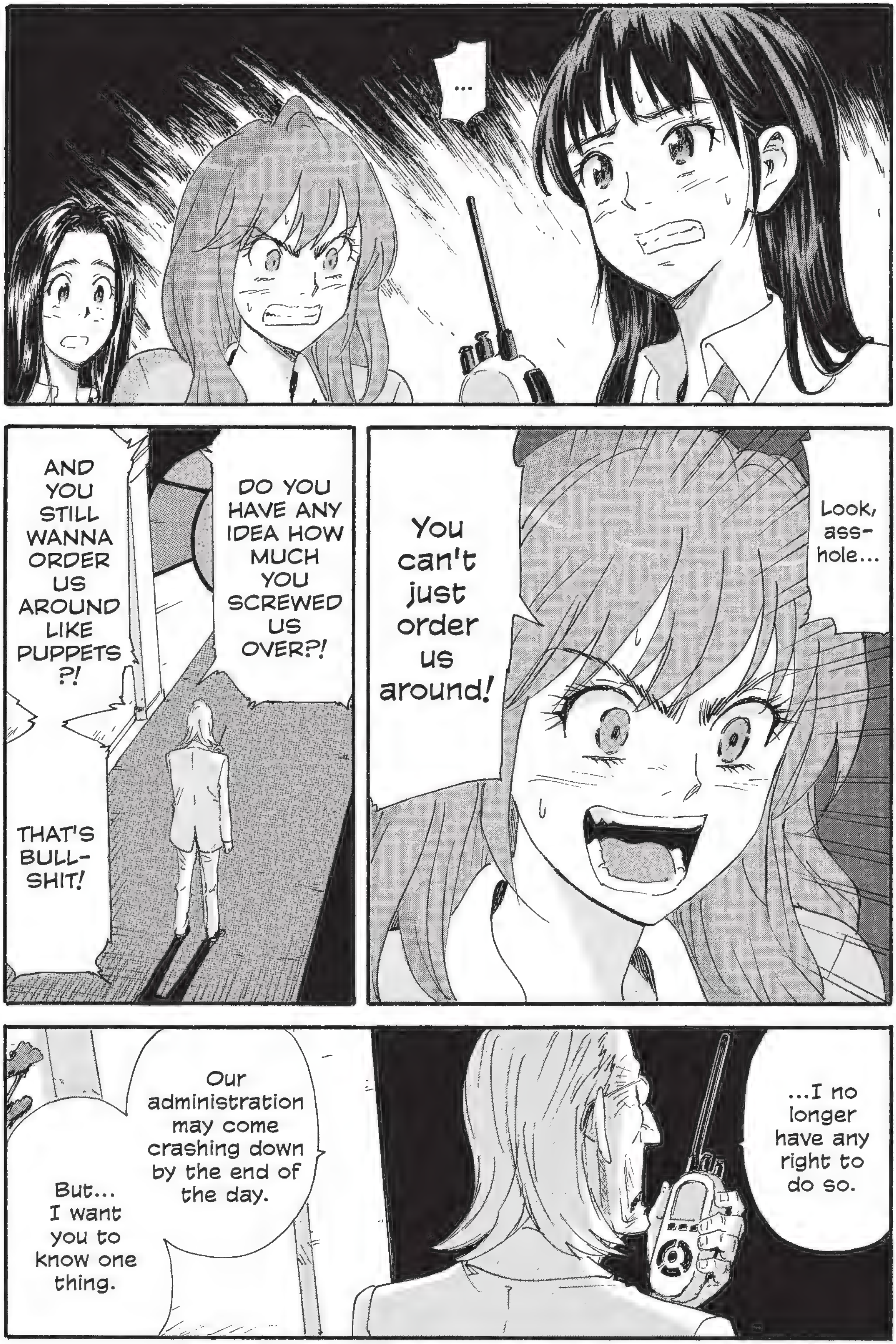

FVVT
IT'S ME, IBARA NARUSE!
SECRETARY OUGAI!
What is it?
You've heard foreboding news, perhaps?
The nuclear testing...
Is it Dr. Coppelius' doing?!
Nuclear testing... is that what they're calling it?
It's a *nuclear attack* on Kazakhstan land, Miss Representative.
RAAAA
An attack induced by Dr. Coppelius, of course.
He's promised a special prize...
...to the fool who meets his ridiculous conditions.

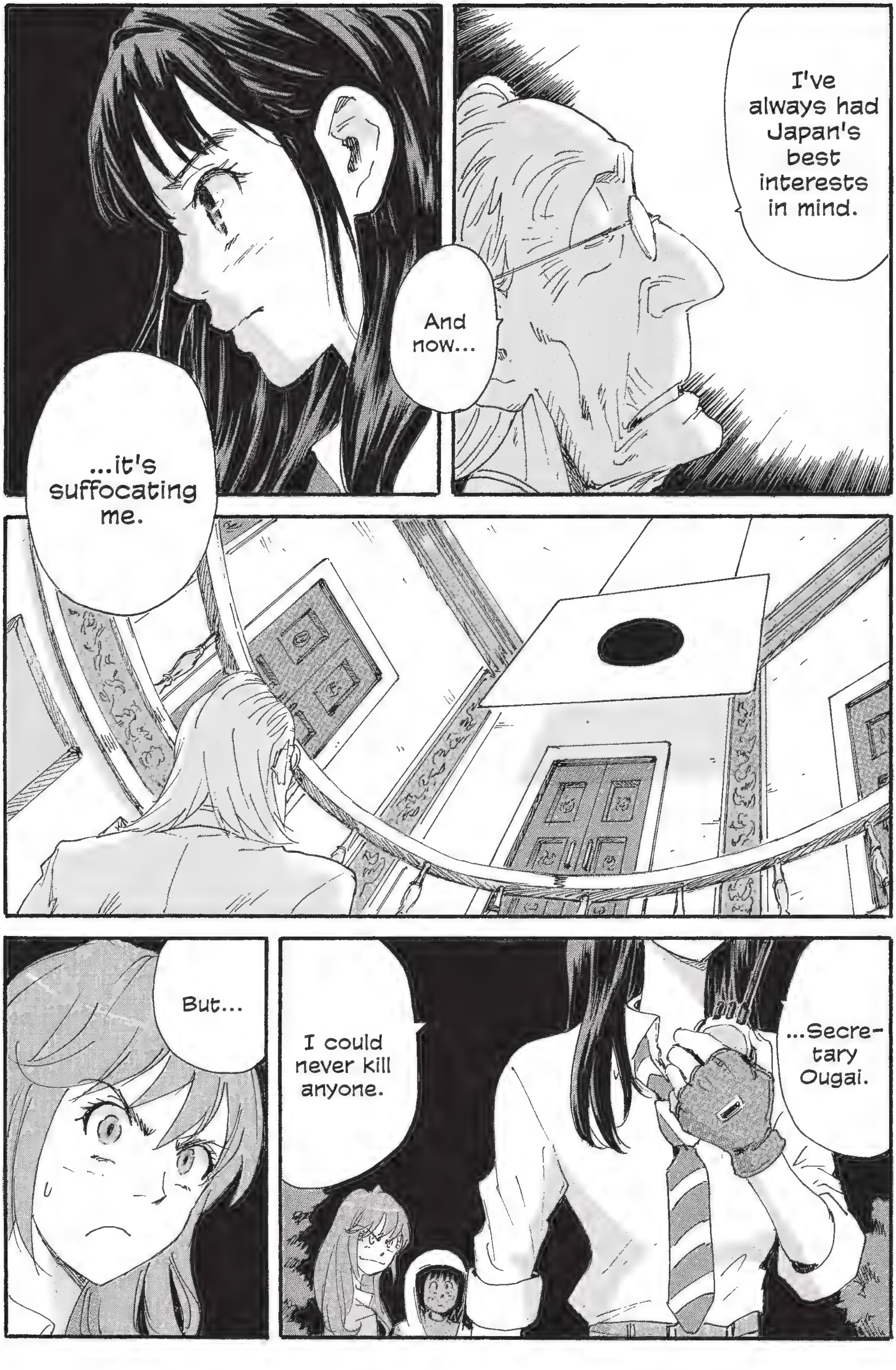

Then... in exchange for a nuclear attack...
...he's handing over the technology to create more Coppelion?!

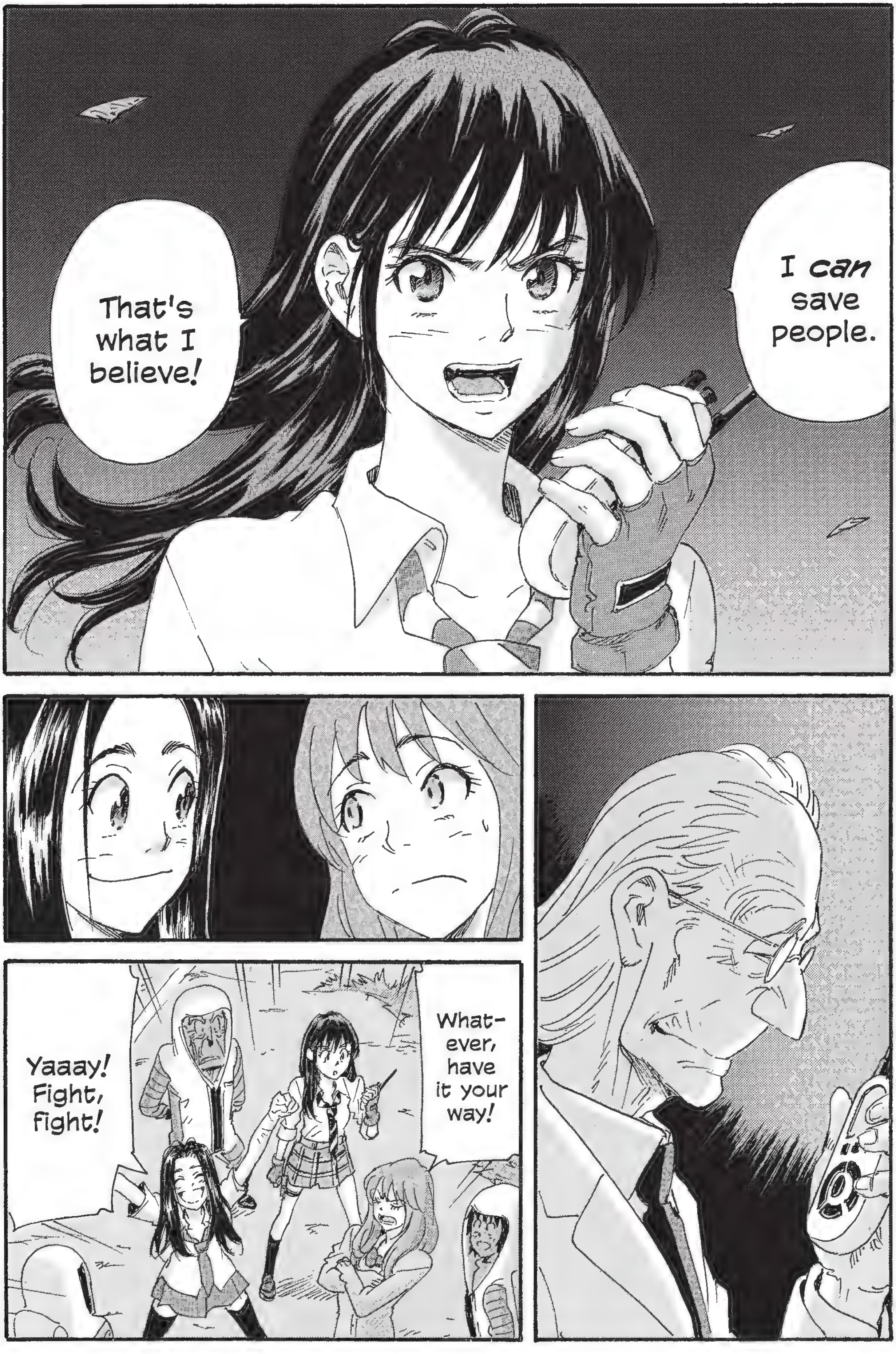

Naturally, no country wishes to launch nuclear missiles.
How-ever—
...They're in the midst of a heated debate now.
You fool! Why are you preparing for nuclear testing?!
RAA
RAA
You started to first!
Listen, everyone—do *not* launch those missiles!
No matter what! Think of the planet's future!
Stand down! Do not fire! It absolutely, positively must not happen!
It's starting to sound like you're *encouraging* us to fire!
RAA
R-A-A
Wait!
Even if *we* don't do it...
DOOOM

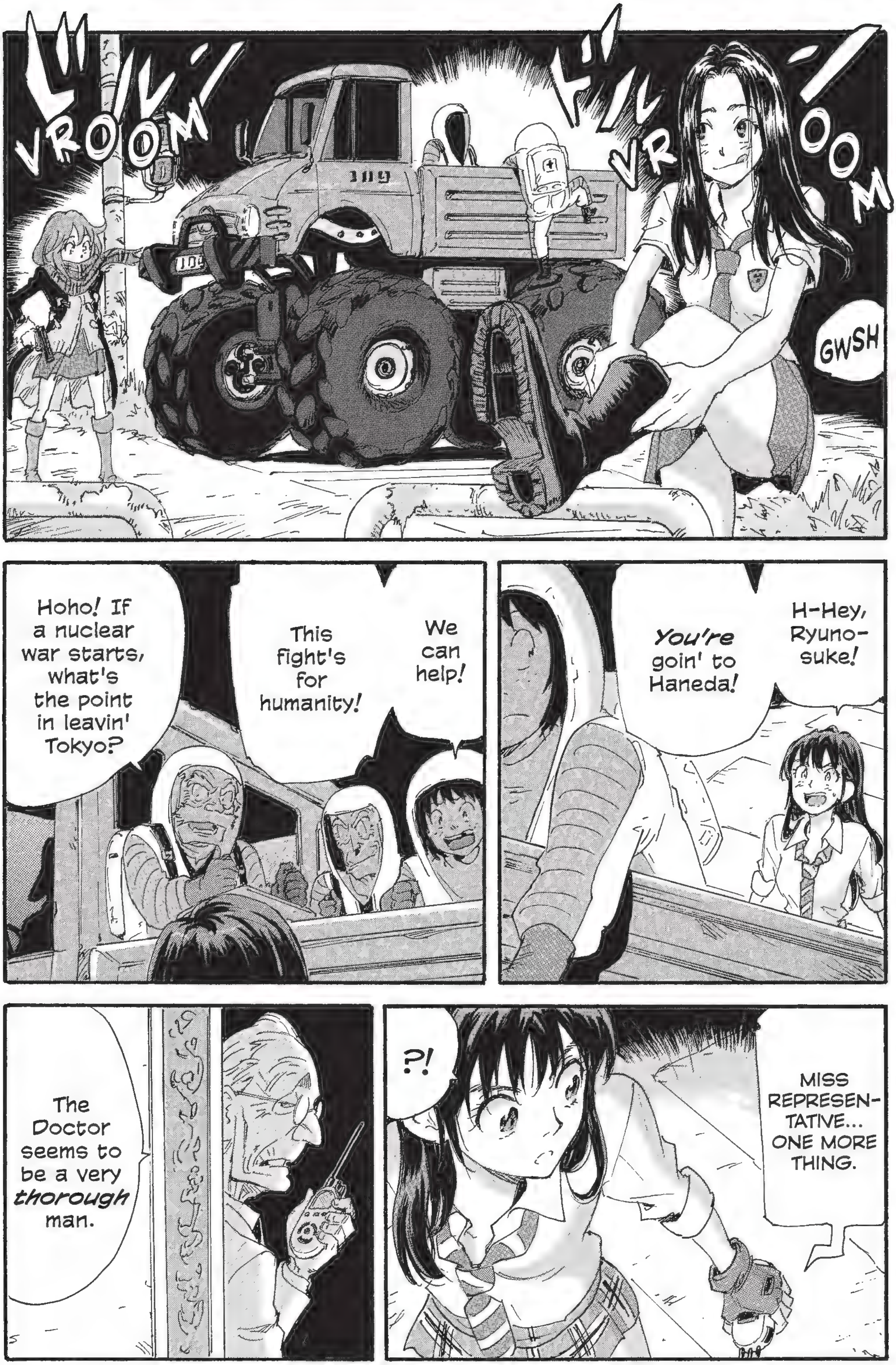

Then they'll get their hands on that data!
Shit!
We'll have to make as if we refuse to do it... while finishing our preparations before they can!
BAM
We're back to where we started!
The superpowers...
Might not be so hesitant!
...
If it's to gain supremacy over a new age...
...one of them may very well press the fire button.
Even I am at a loss.
Miss Representative...

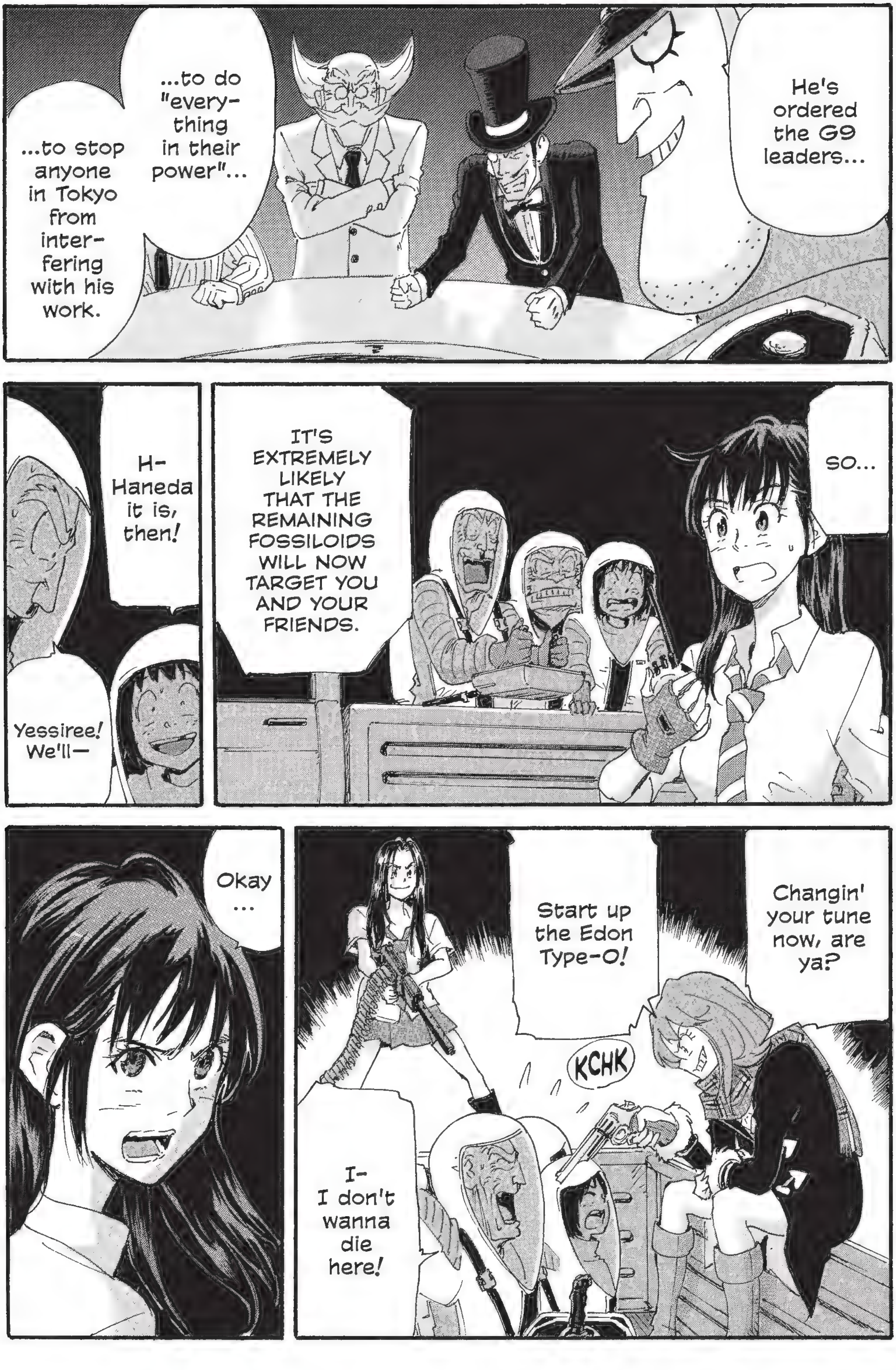

YOUR VICE PRINCIPAL'S HUNCH WAS RIGHT.
What's your plan?
Is there any way to stop this?!
...
THERE IS ONE WAY.
THE GENOME MAP DATA.
DR. COPPELIUS'S ANALYSIS OF AOI FUKASAKU'S DNA...
You must stop him before he completes it.
Kill him.

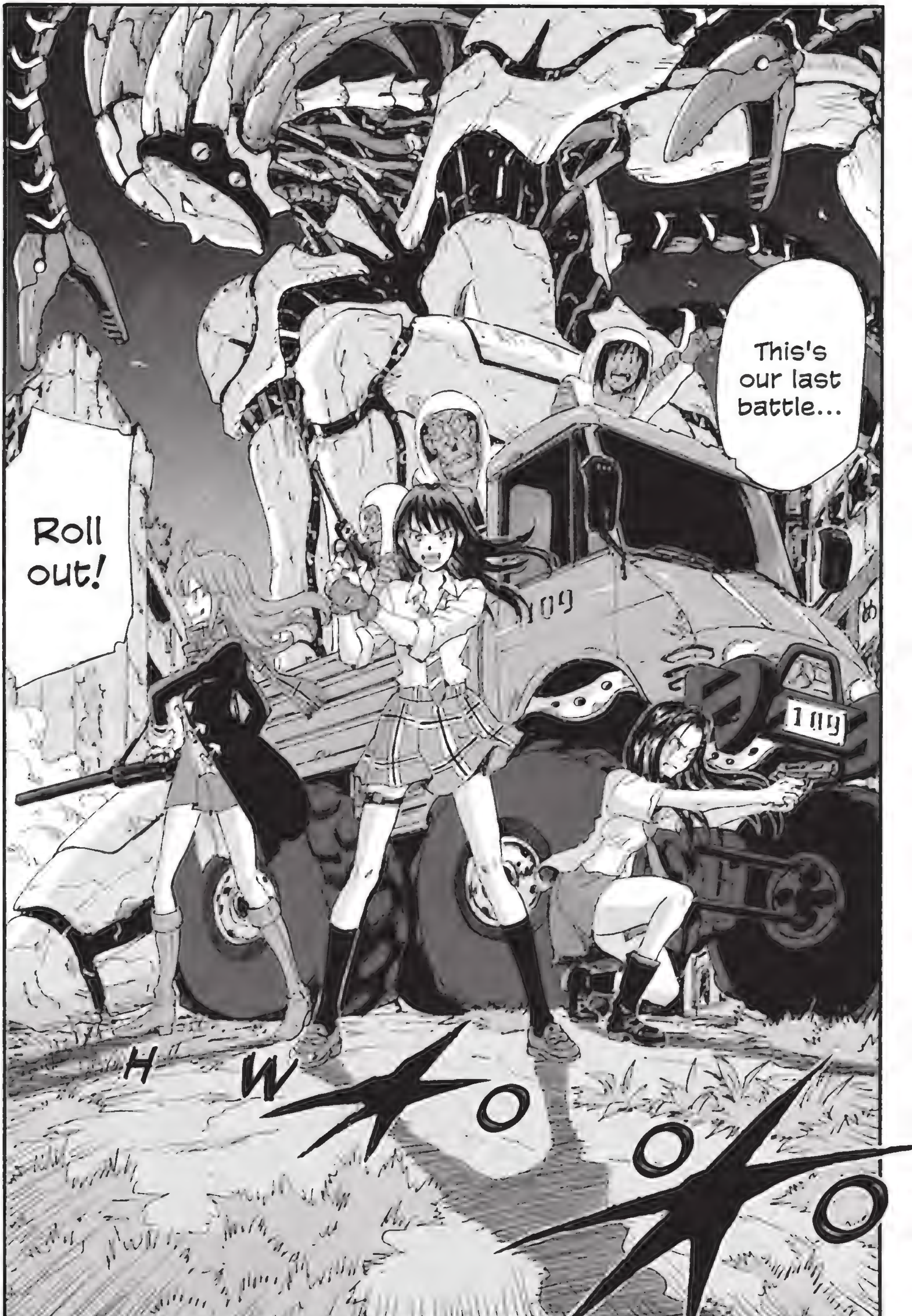

...
Look, asshole...
You can't just order us around!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH YOU SCREWED US OVER?!
AND YOU STILL WANNA ORDER US AROUND LIKE PUPPETS?!
THAT'S BULLSHIT!
...I no longer have any right to do so.
Our administration may come crashing down by the end of the day.
But... I want you to know one thing.

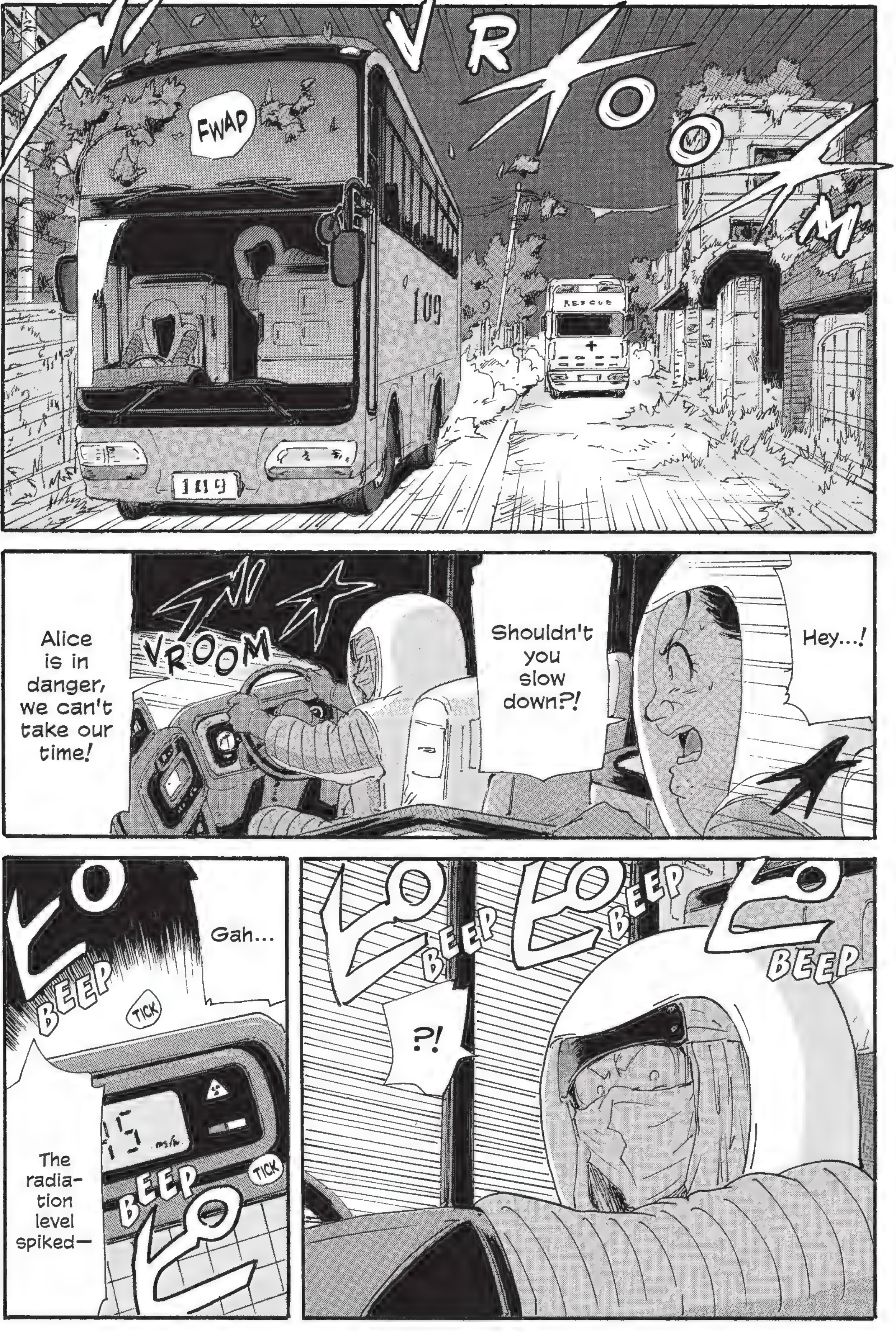

I've always had Japan's best interests in mind.
And now...
...it's suffocating me.
...Secretary Ougai.
I could never kill anyone.
But...

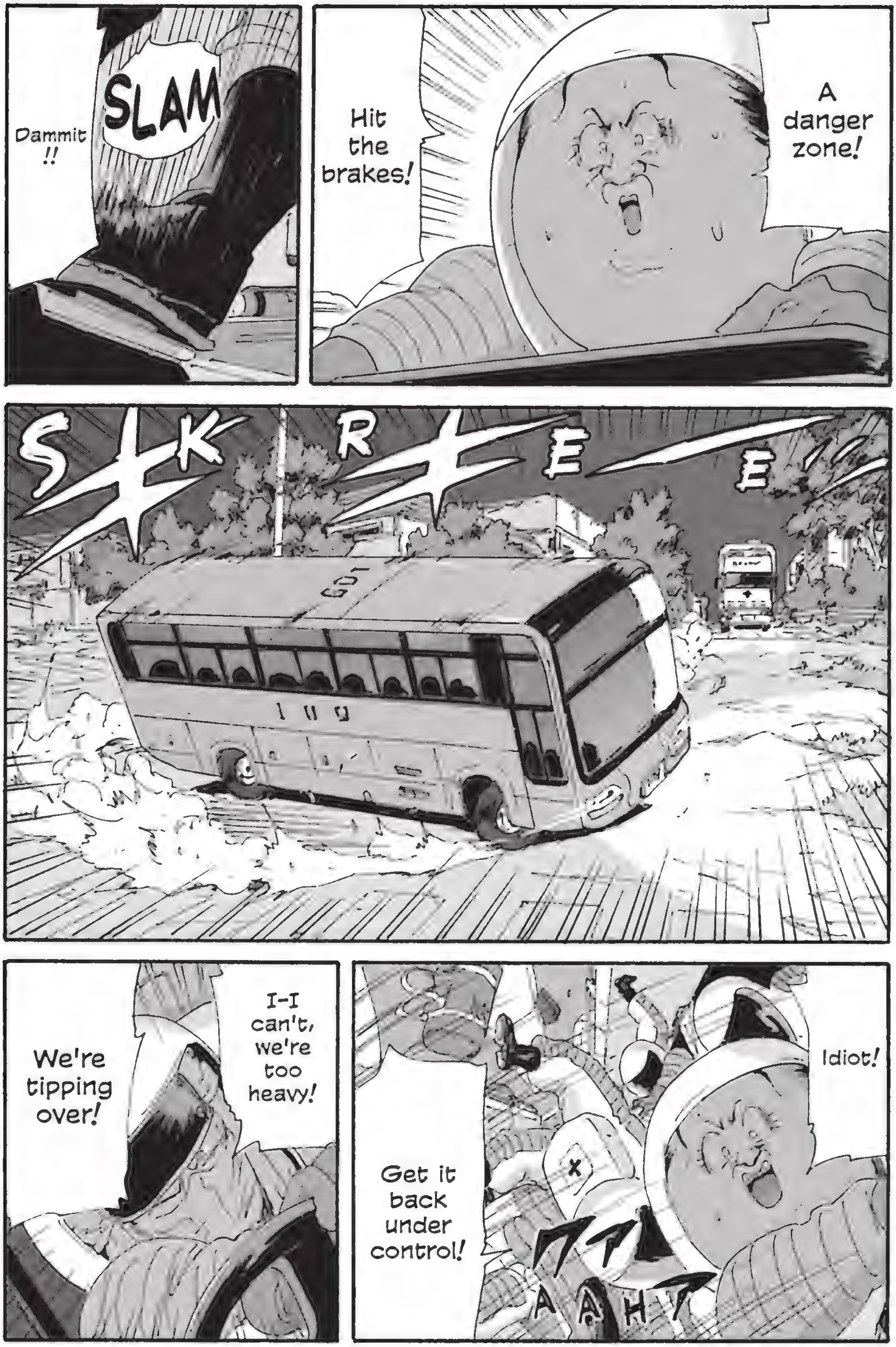

I *can* save people.
That's what I believe!
What-ever, have it your way!
Yaaay! Fight, fight!

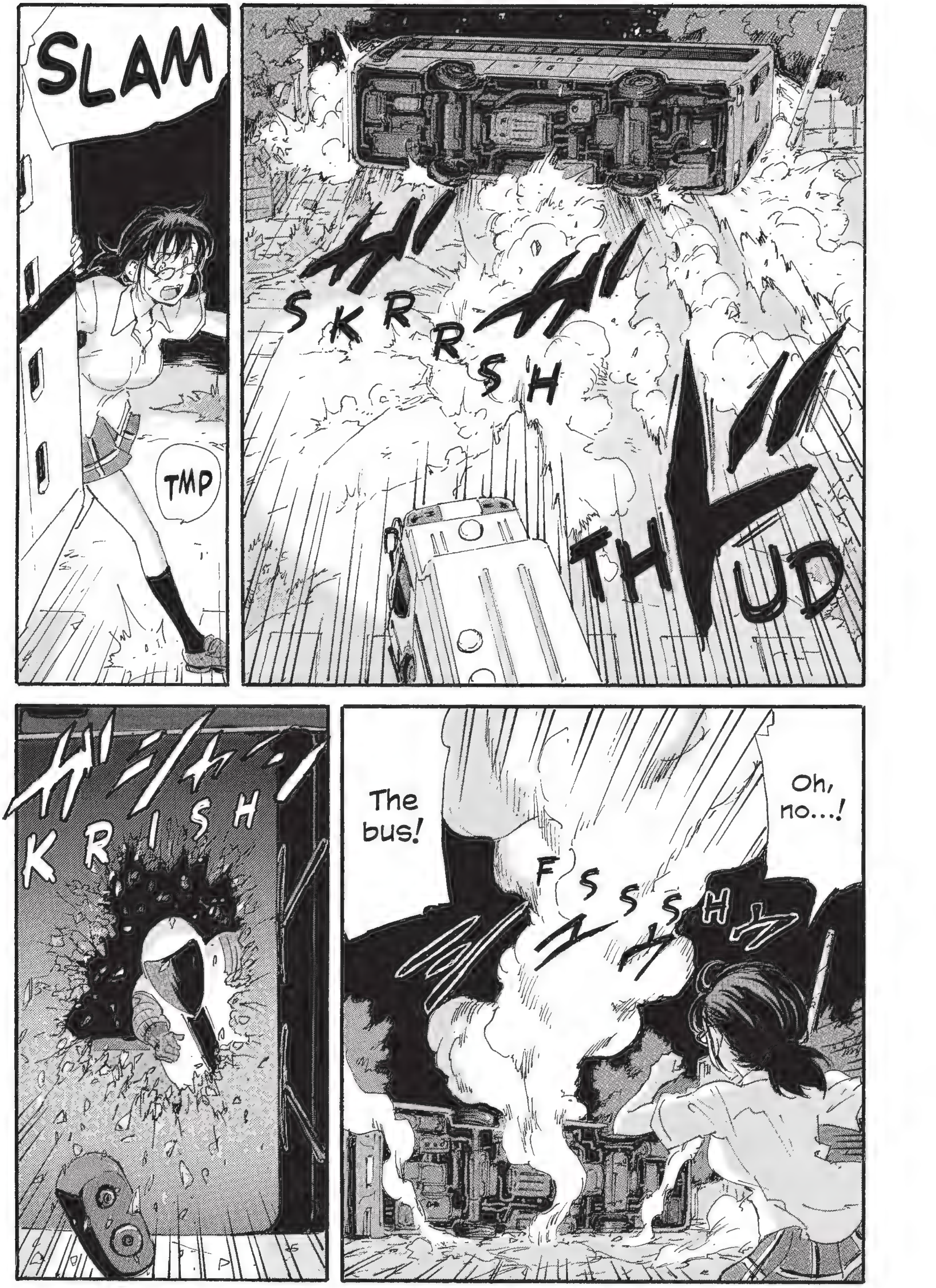

ドルルーン
VROOOOM
GWSH
ドルルーン
VROOM
109
H-Hey, Ryunosuke!
You're goin' to Haneda!
We can help!
This fight's for humanity!
Hoho! If a nuclear war starts, what's the point in leavin' Tokyo?
MISS REPRESENTATIVE... ONE MORE THING.
?!
The Doctor seems to be a very thorough man.

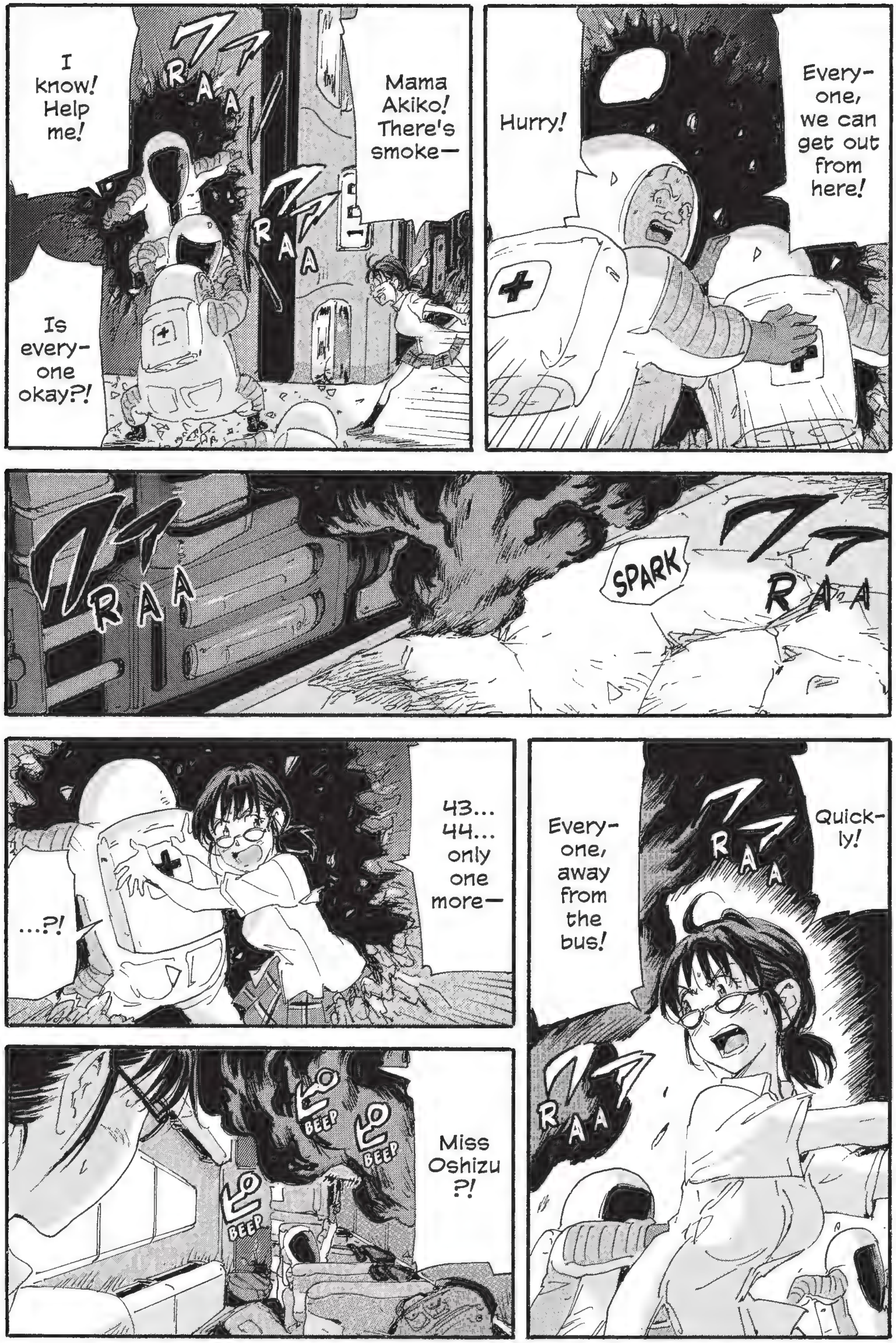

He's ordered the G9 leaders...
...to do "everything in their power"...
...to stop anyone in Tokyo from interfering with his work.
SO...
IT'S EXTREMELY LIKELY THAT THE REMAINING FOSSILOIDS WILL NOW TARGET YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.
H-Haneda it is, then!
Yessiree! We'll—
Changin' your tune now, are ya?
KCHK
Start up the Edon Type-O!
I- I don't wanna die here!
Okay ...

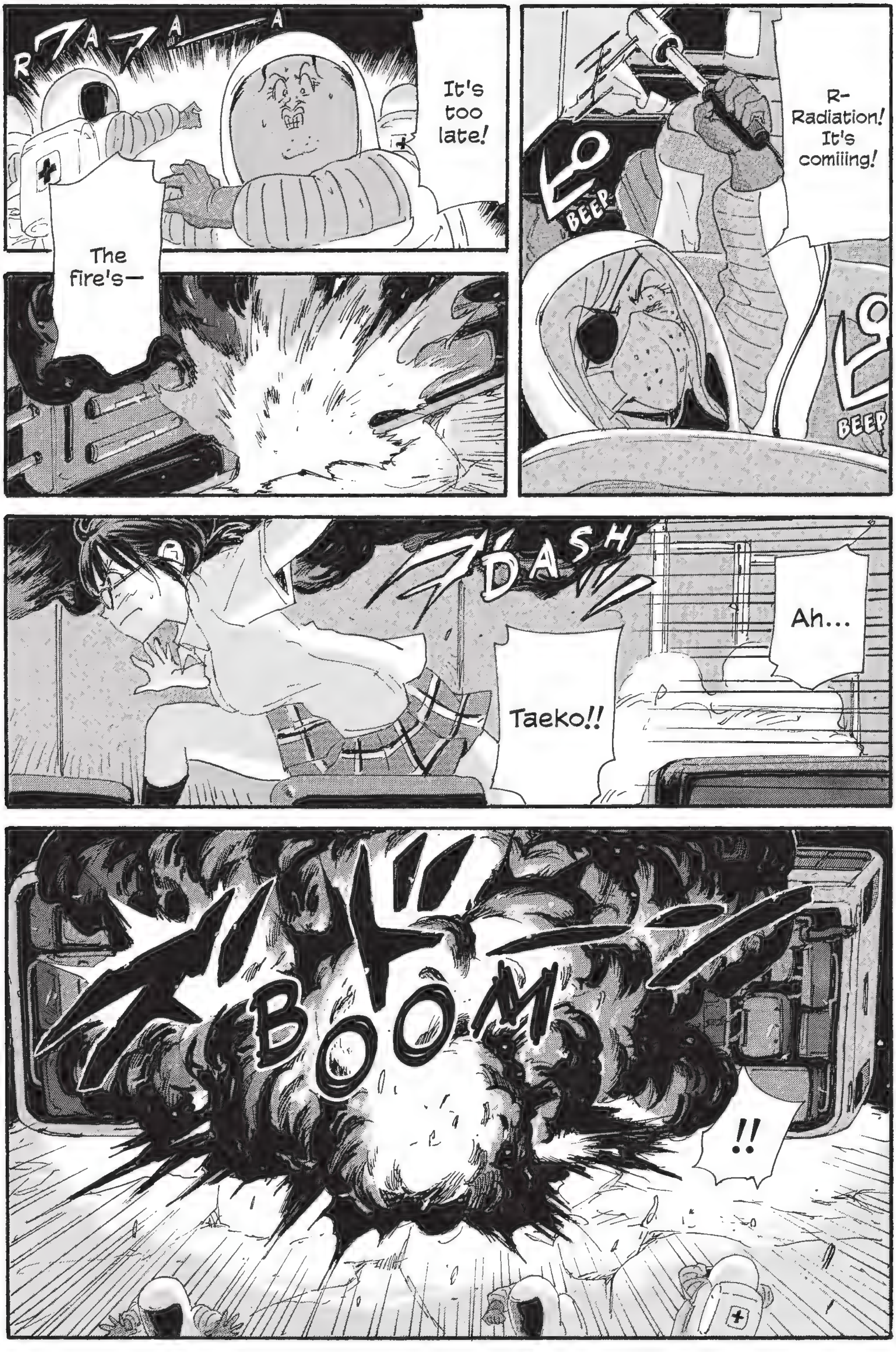

This's our last battle...
Roll out!
109
109
HWOOOO

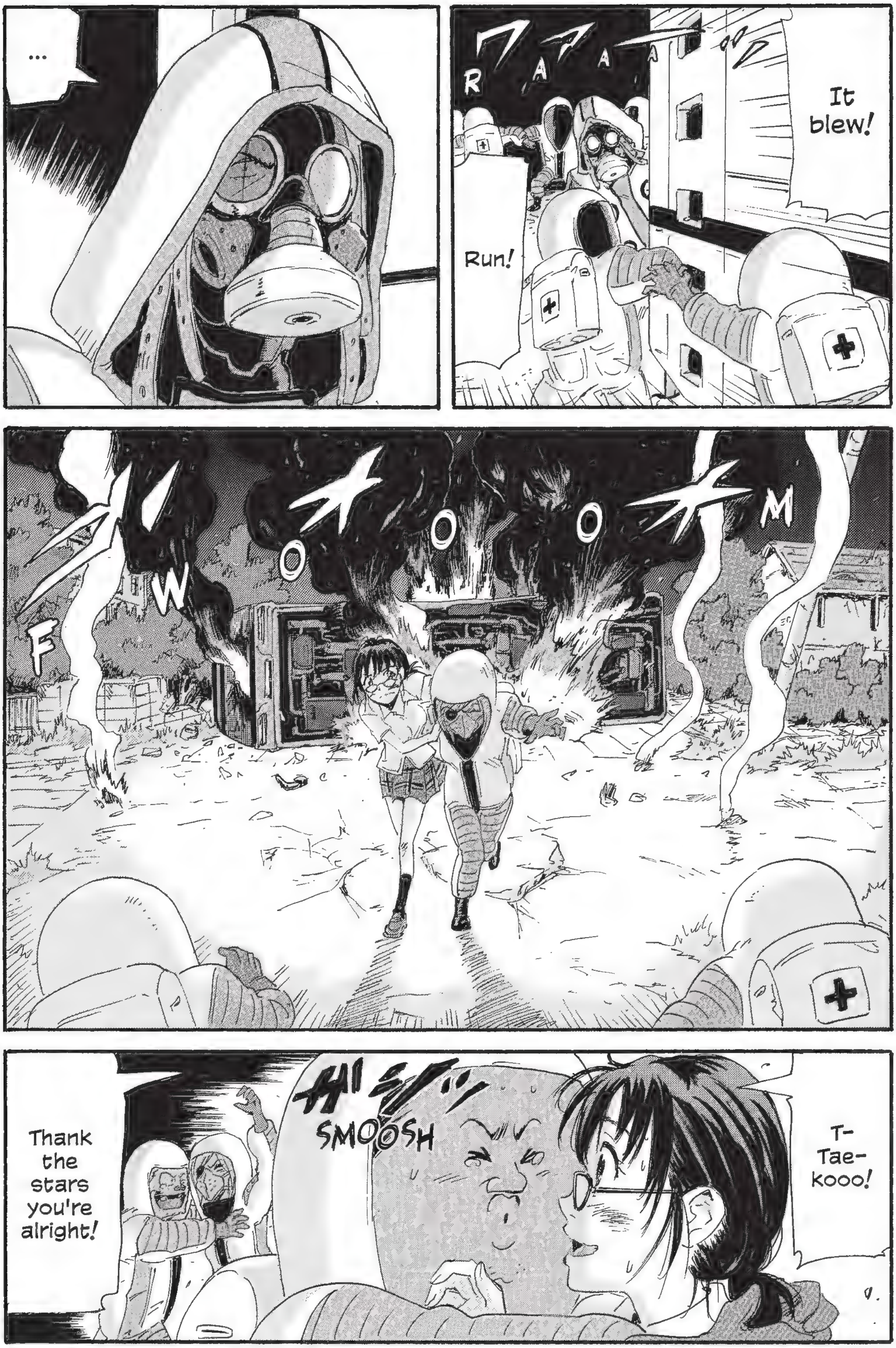

VROOOM
FWAP
109
RESCUE
109
Hey...!
Shouldn't you slow down?!
Alice is in danger, we can't take our time!
VROOM
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
?!
Gah...
BEEP
TICK
The radiation level spiked—
BEEP
TICK

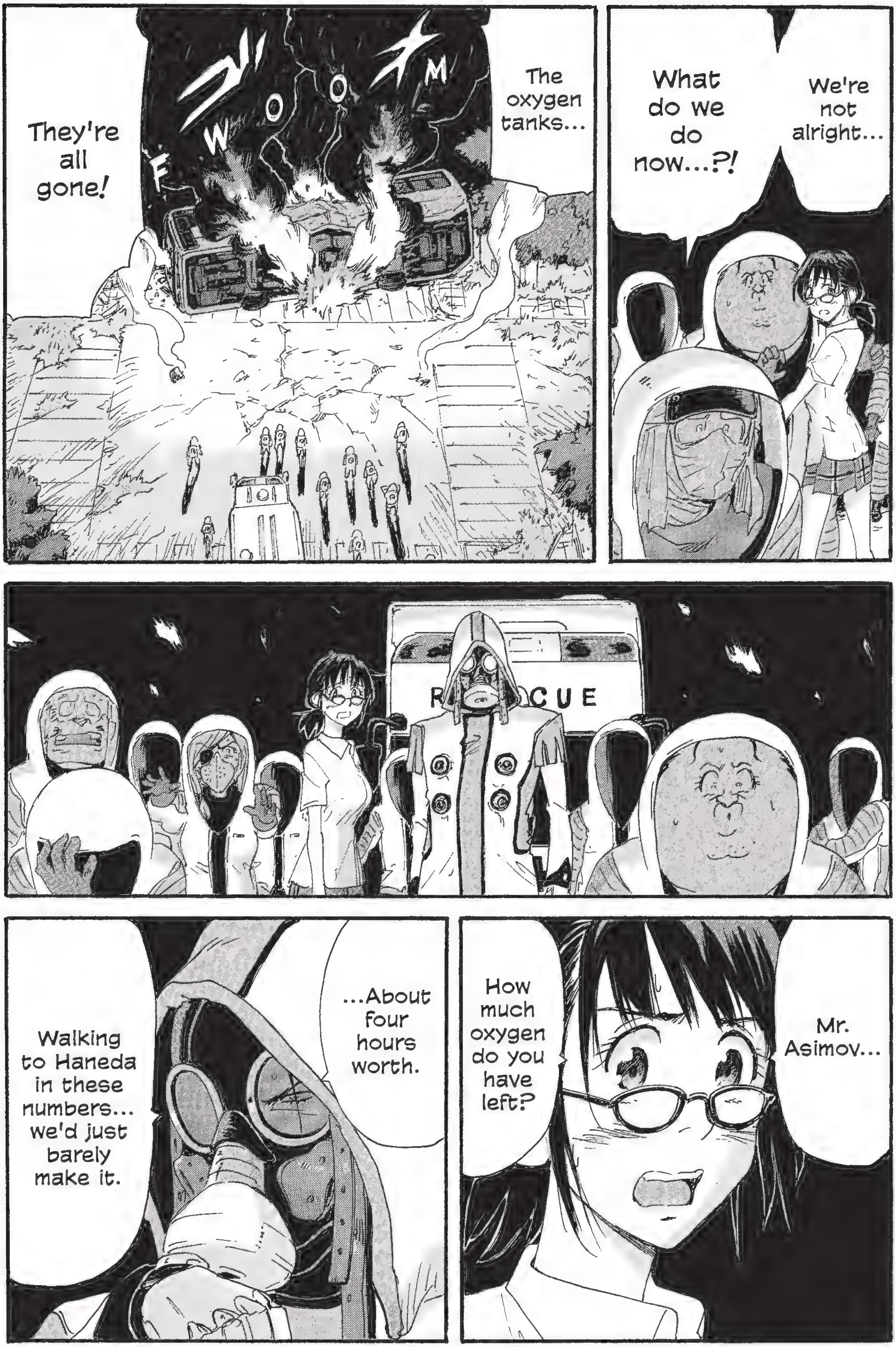

Dammit!!
SLAM
Hit the brakes!
A danger zone!
SKREEE
We're tipping over!
I-I can't, we're too heavy!
Idiot!
Get it back under control!
AAHH

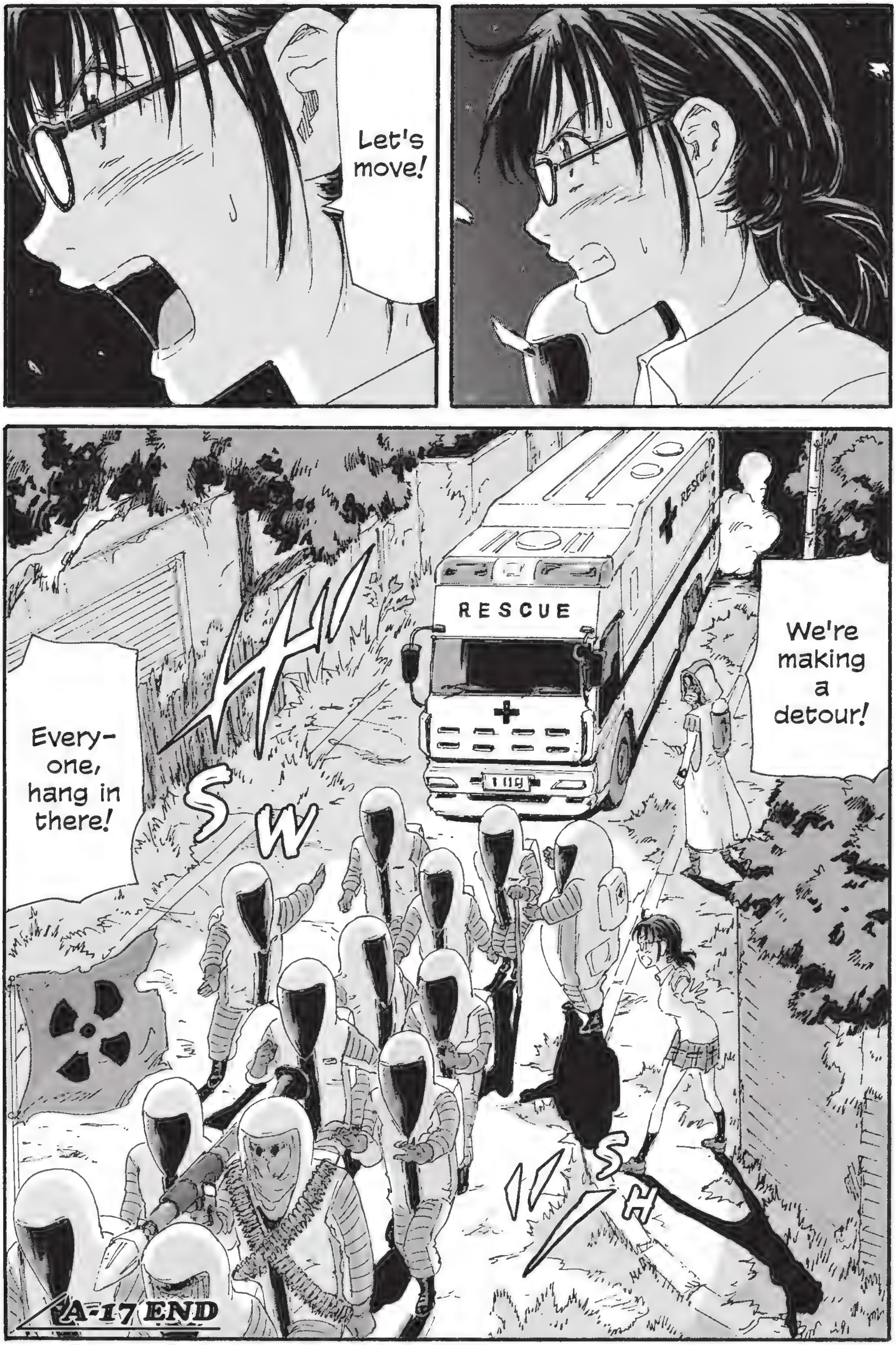

SKRRSH
THUD
SLAM
TMP
Oh, no...!
The bus!
FSSSHH
KRISH


Is everyone okay?!
RAA
Mama Akiko! There's smoke—
I know! Help me!
RAA
Hurry!
Everyone, we can get out from here!
RAA
SPARK
RAA
43... 44... only one more—
...?!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
Miss Oshizu?!
Everyone, away from the bus!
Quickly!
RAA
RAA


R-Radiation! It's comiiing!
BEEP
BEEP
RAAAA
It's too late!
The fire's—
Ah...
DASH
Taeko!!
BOOM
!!

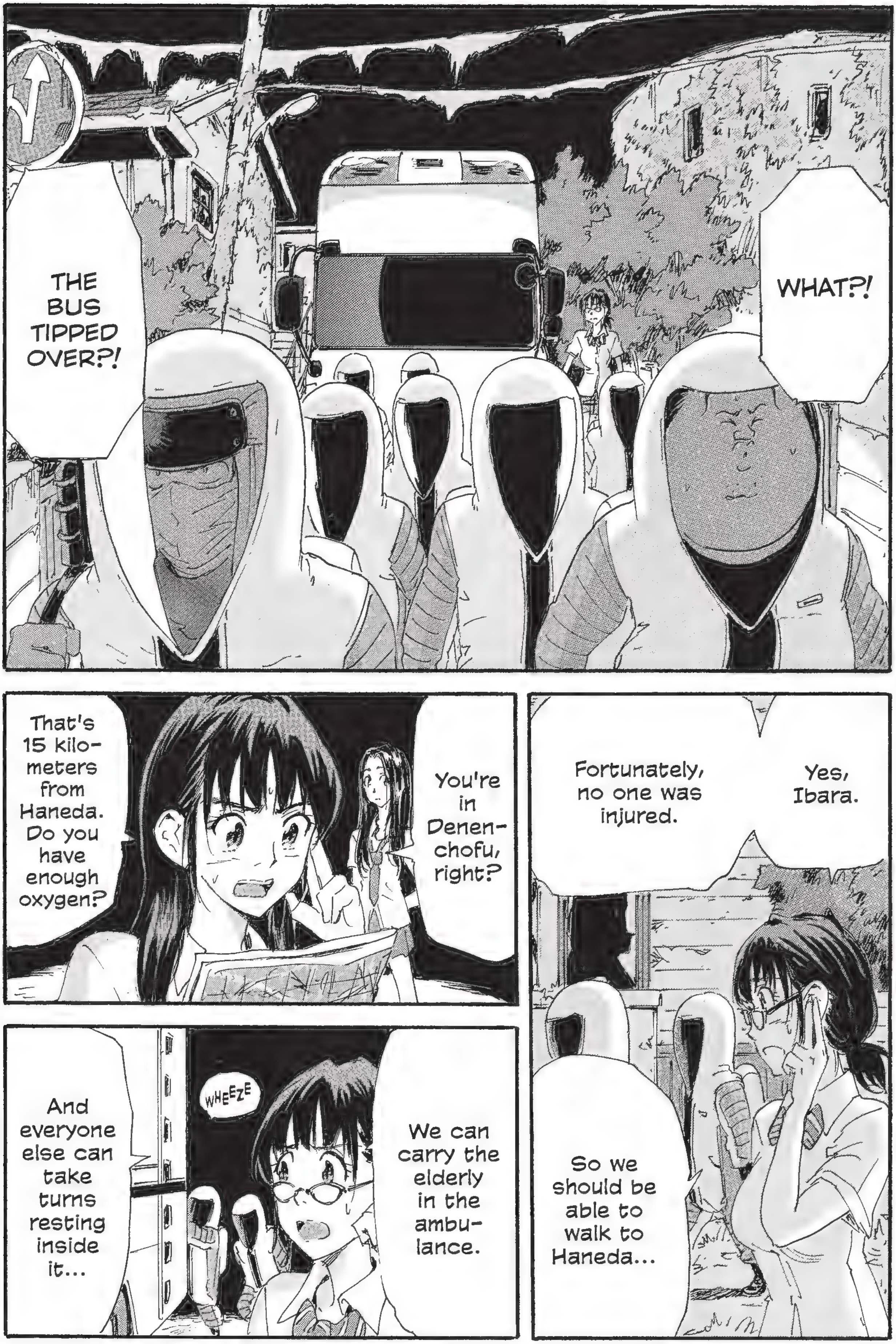

It blew!
Run!
RAAA
...
FWOOOM
T-Tae-kooo!
SMOOSH
Thank the stars you're alright!

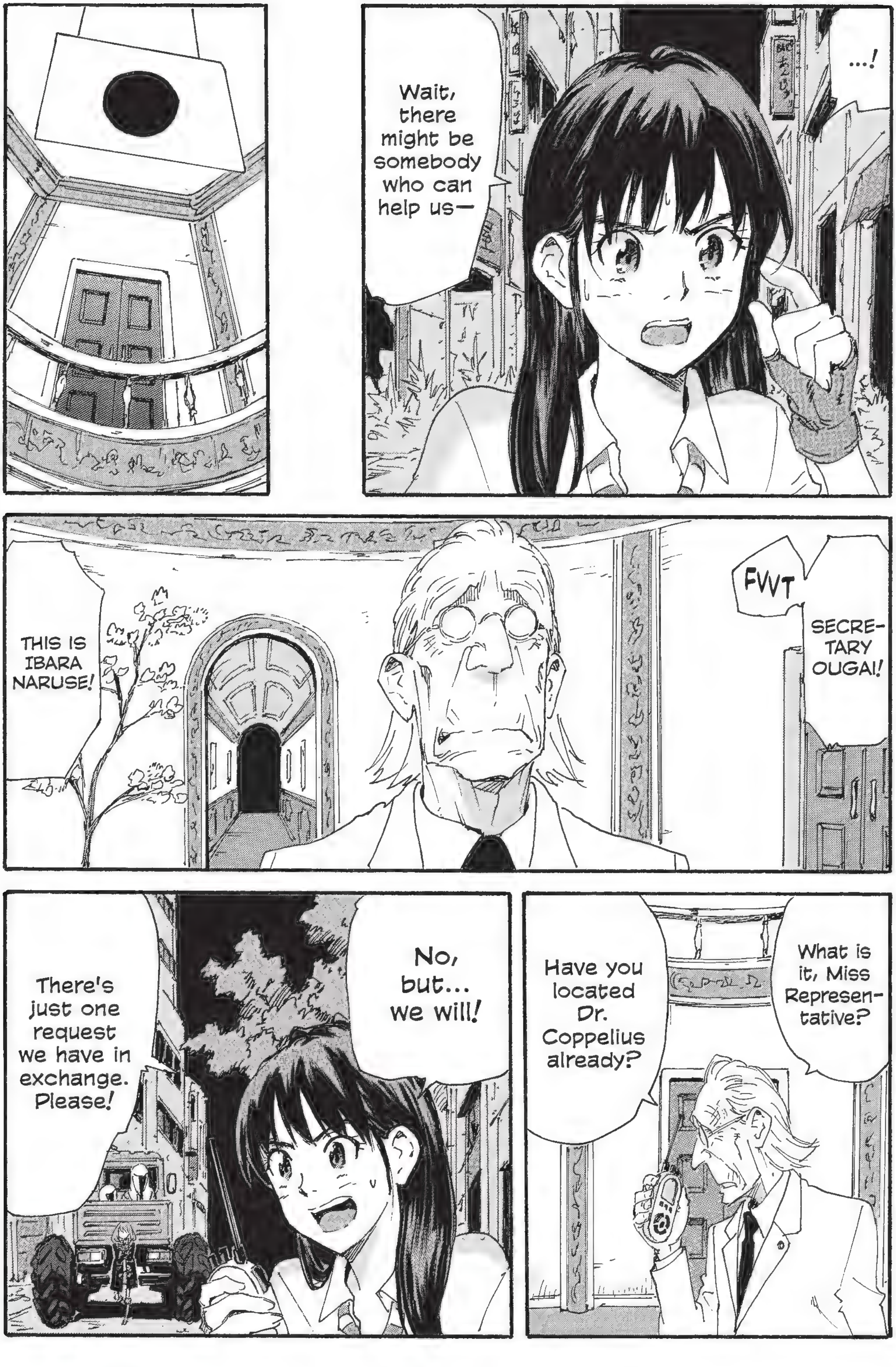

We're not alright...
What do we do now...?!
FWOOM
The oxygen tanks...
They're all gone!
R CUE
Mr. Asimov...
How much oxygen do you have left?
...About four hours worth.
Walking to Haneda in these numbers... we'd just barely make it.

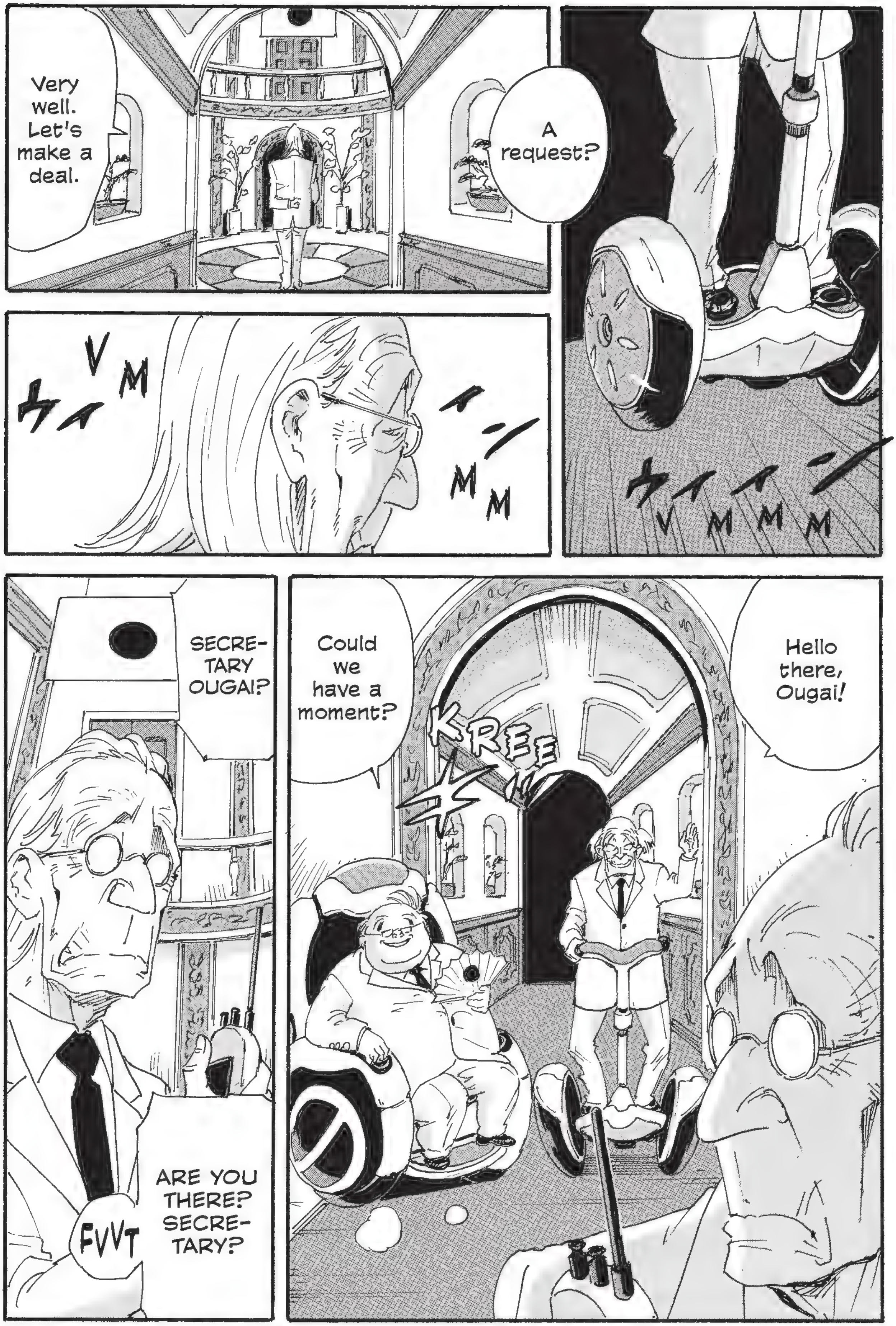

Let's move!
RESCUE
We're making a detour!
Every-one, hang in there!
SW
SH

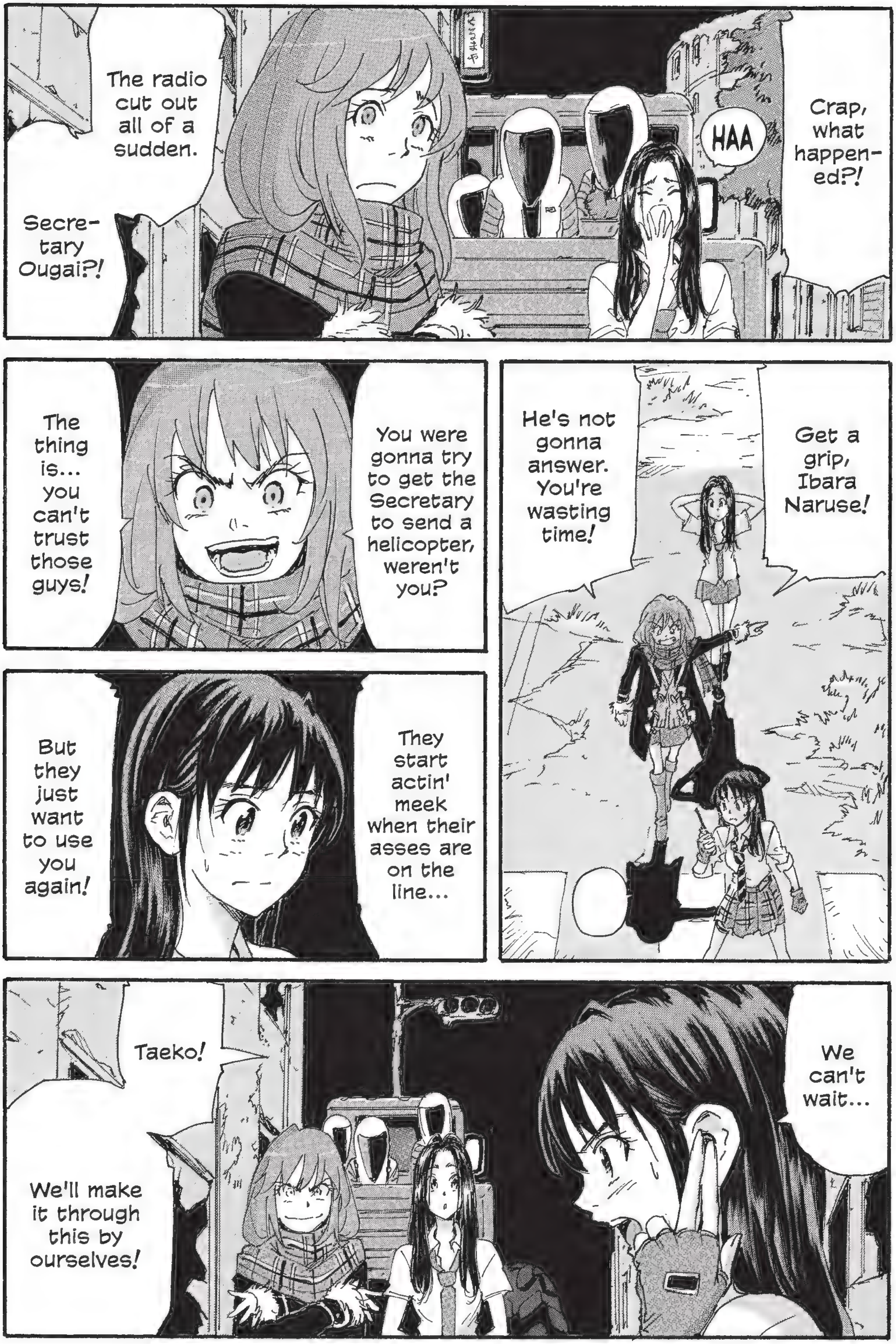
A-17 END

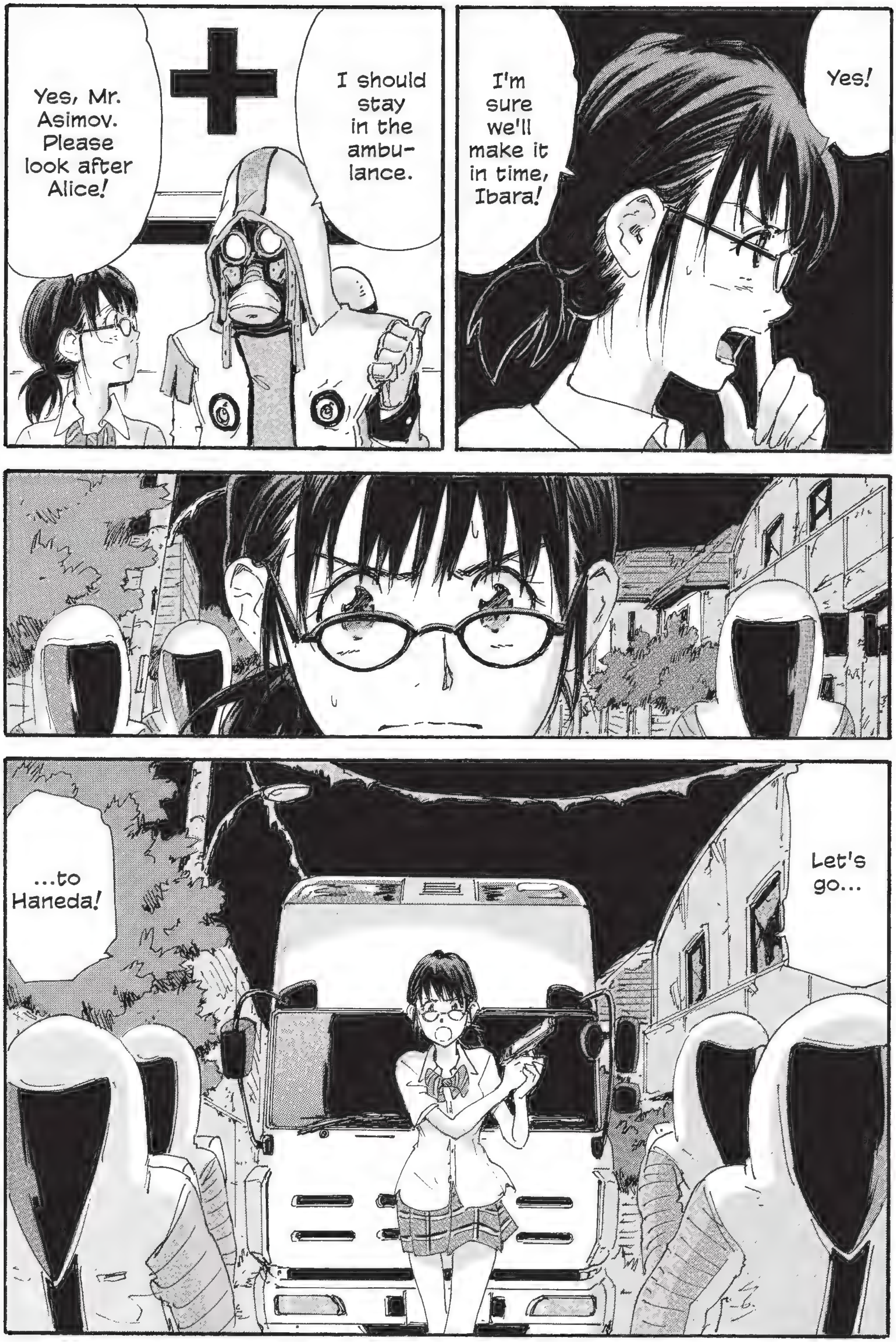
Act.18【The Record from 2011】

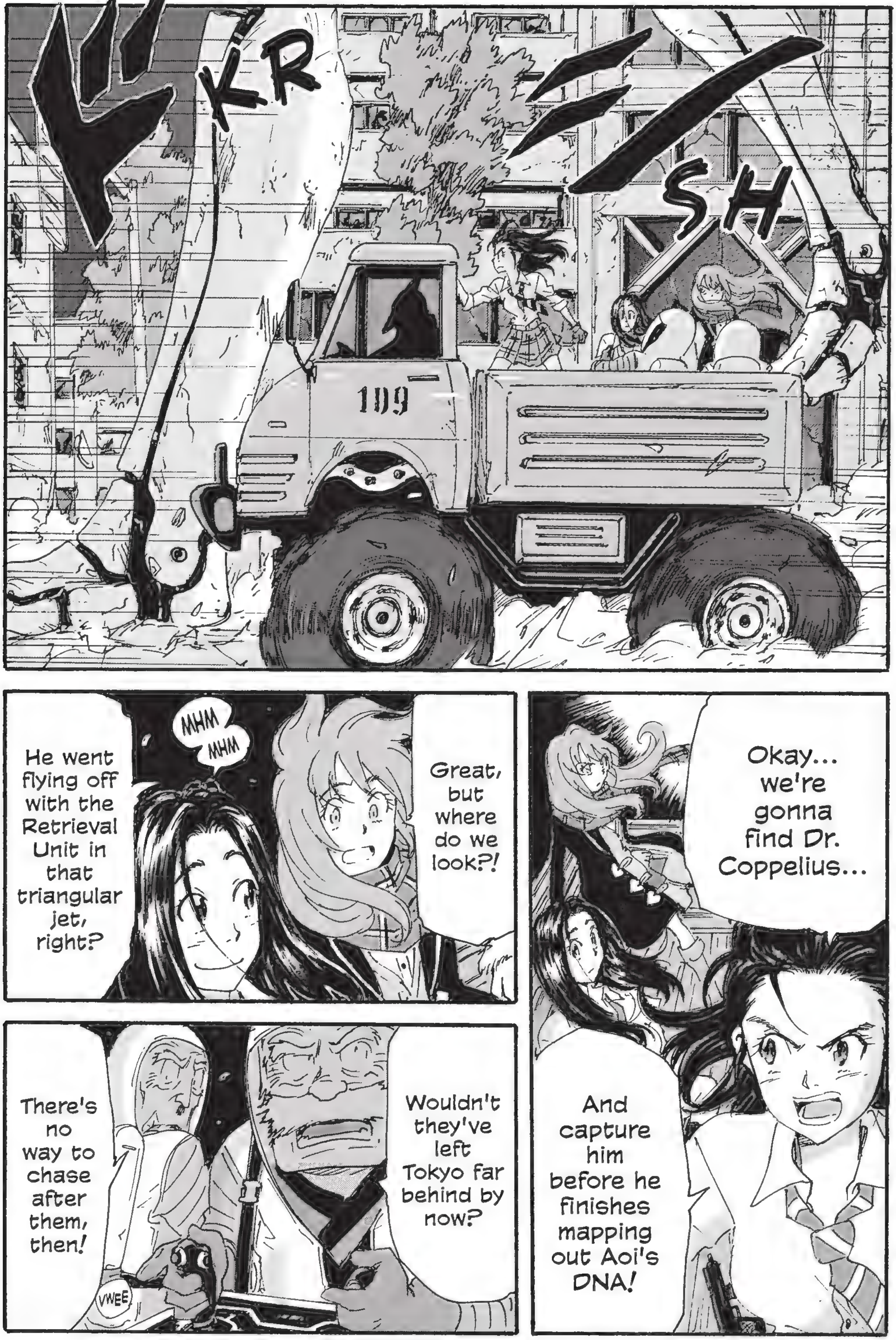

WHAT?!
THE BUS TIPPED OVER?!
Yes, Ibara.
Fortunately, no one was injured.
So we should be able to walk to Haneda...
You're in Denenchofu, right?
That's 15 kilometers from Haneda. Do you have enough oxygen?
We can carry the elderly in the ambulance.
WHEEZE
And everyone else can take turns resting inside it...

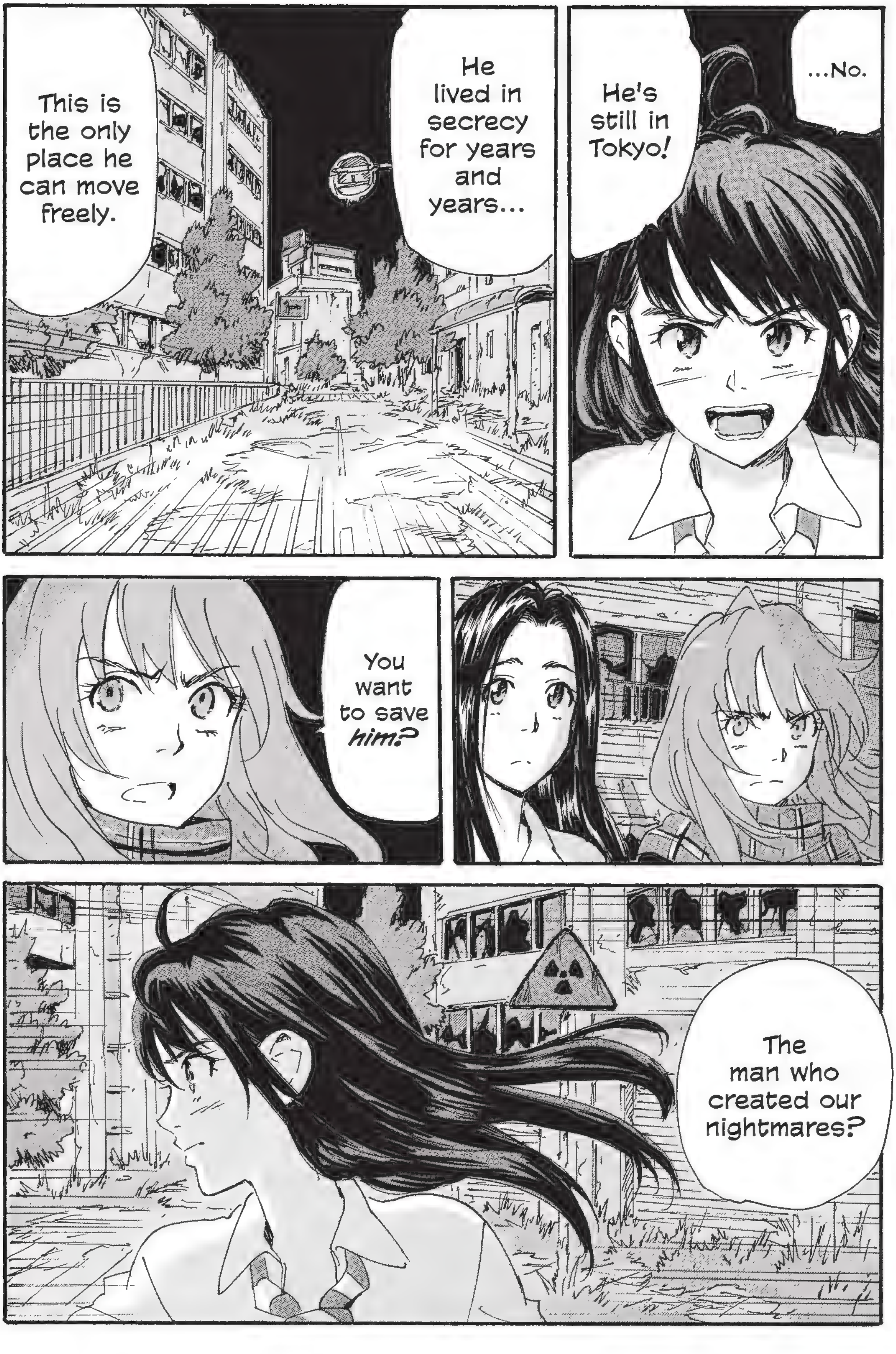

...!
Wait, there might be somebody who can help us—
FVVT
SECRETARY OUGAI!
THIS IS IBARA NARUSE!
What is it, Miss Representative?
Have you located Dr. Coppelius already?
No, but... we will!
There's just one request we have in exchange. Please!

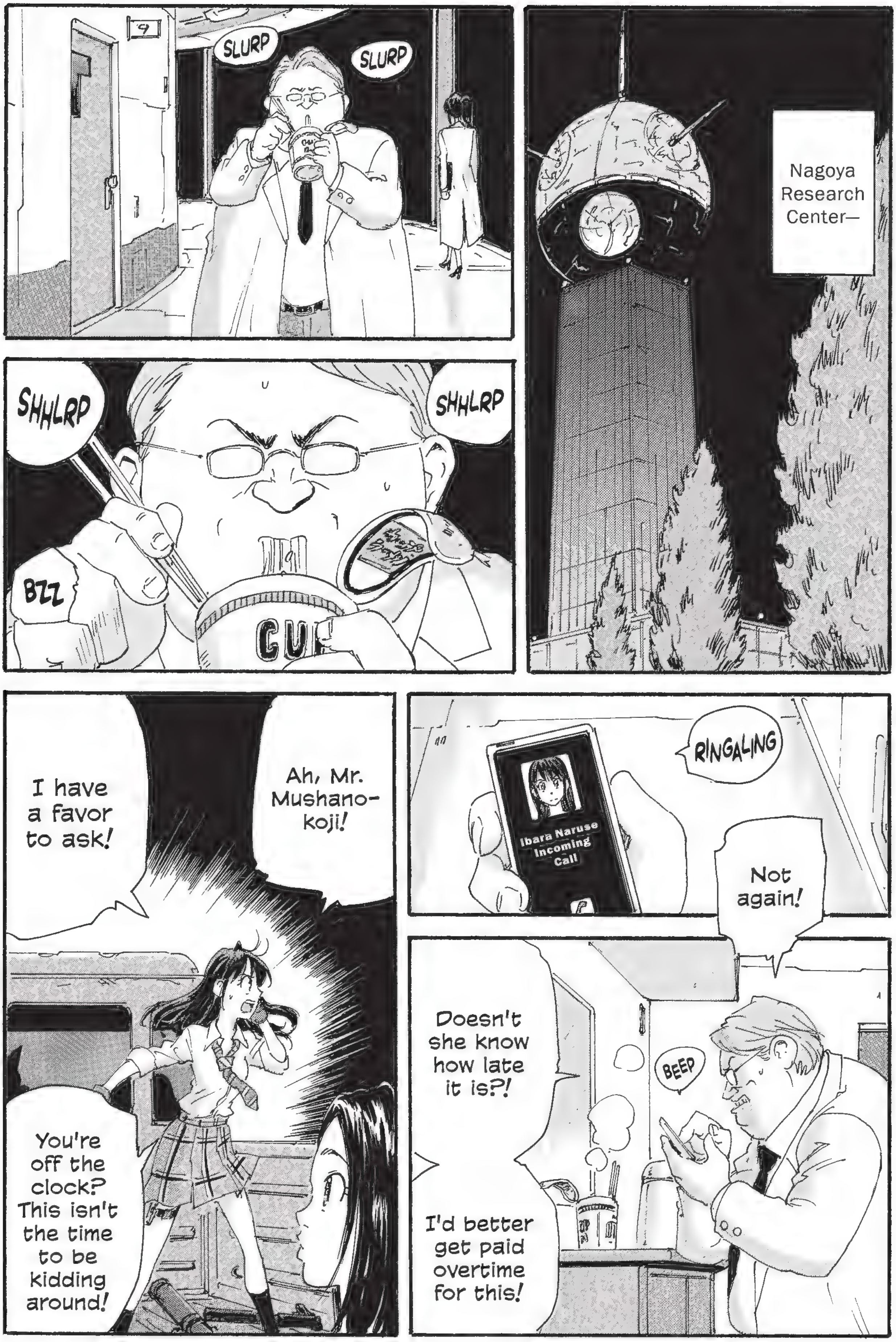

A request?
Very well. Let's make a deal.
ウィーン
VMMMM
ウィーン
VMMM
Hello there, Ougai!
Could we have a moment?
KREEAK
SECRE-TARY OUGAI?
ARE YOU THERE? SECRE-TARY?
FVVT

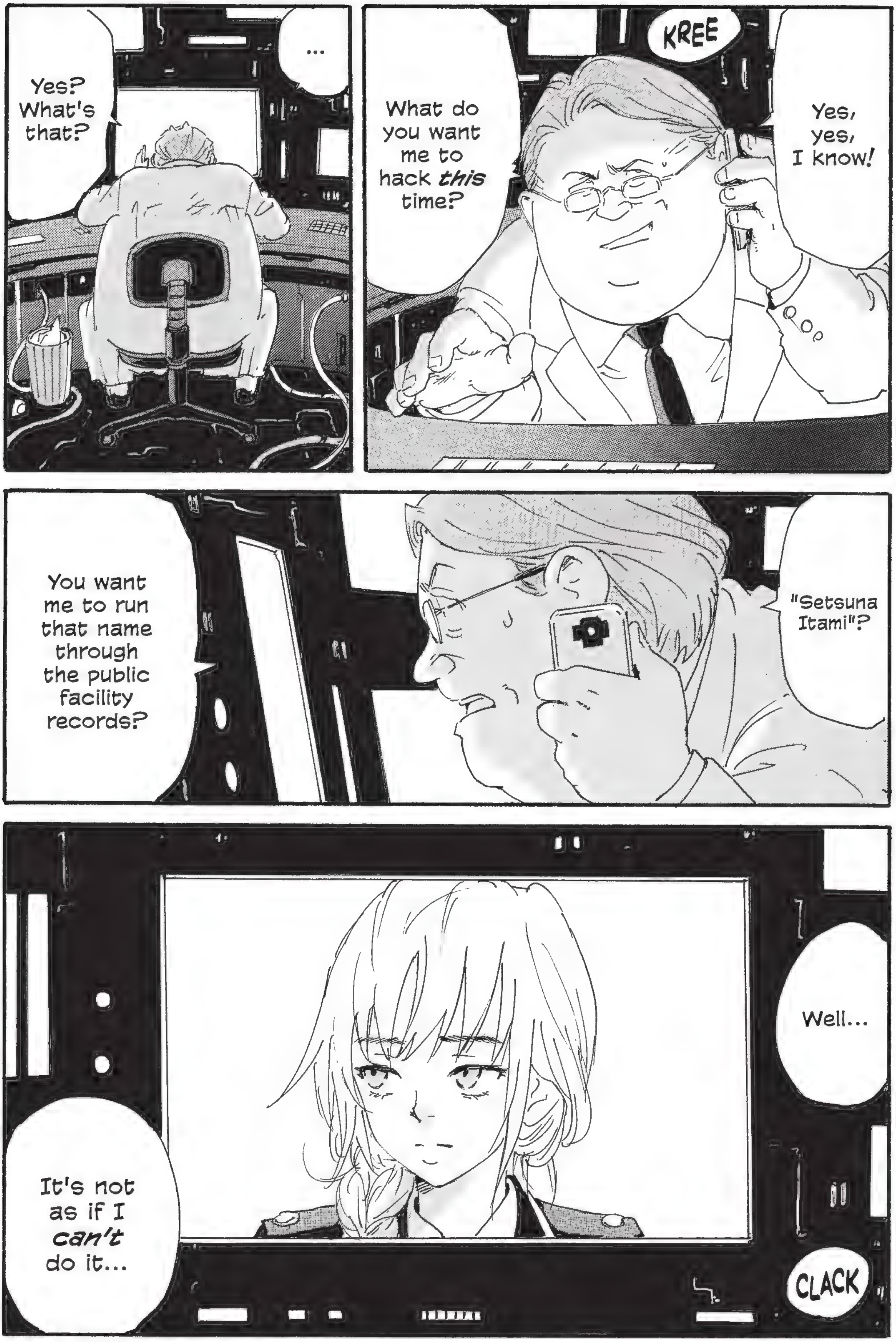

Crap, what happened?!
HAA
The radio cut out all of a sudden.
Secretary Ougai?!
Get a grip, Ibara Naruse!
He's not gonna answer. You're wasting time!
You were gonna try to get the Secretary to send a helicopter, weren't you?
The thing is... you can't trust those guys!
They start actin' meek when their asses are on the line...
But they just want to use you again!
We can't wait...
Taeko!
We'll make it through this by ourselves!

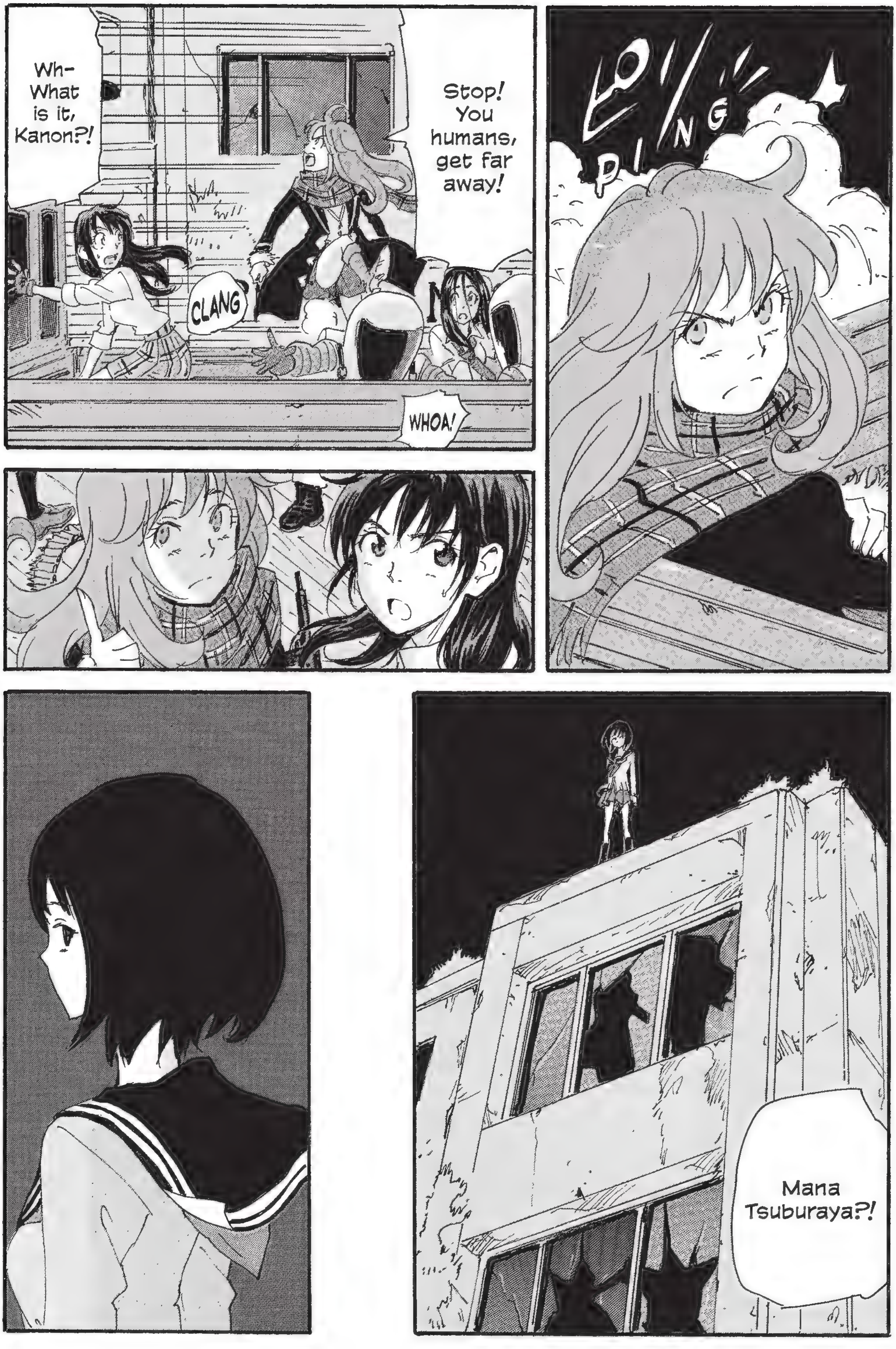

Yes!
I'm sure we'll make it in time, Ibara!
I should stay in the ambulance.
Yes, Mr. Asimov. Please look after Alice!
Let's go...
...to Haneda!

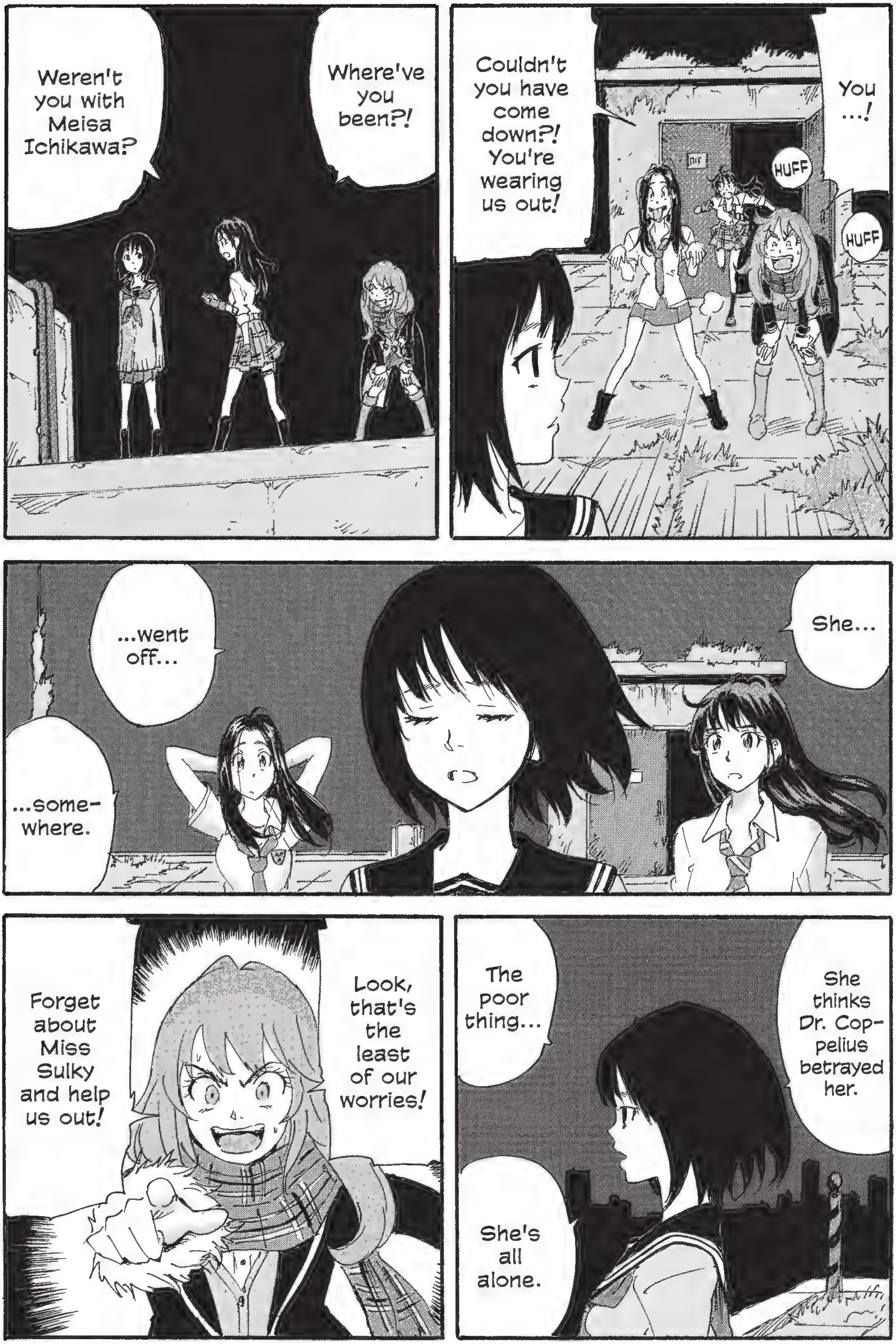

KR
SH
Okay... we're gonna find Dr. Coppelius...
And capture him before he finishes mapping out Aoi's DNA!
Great, but where do we look?!
MHM MHM
He went flying off with the Retrieval Unit in that triangular jet, right?
Wouldn't they've left Tokyo far behind by now?
There's no way to chase after them, then!
VWEE

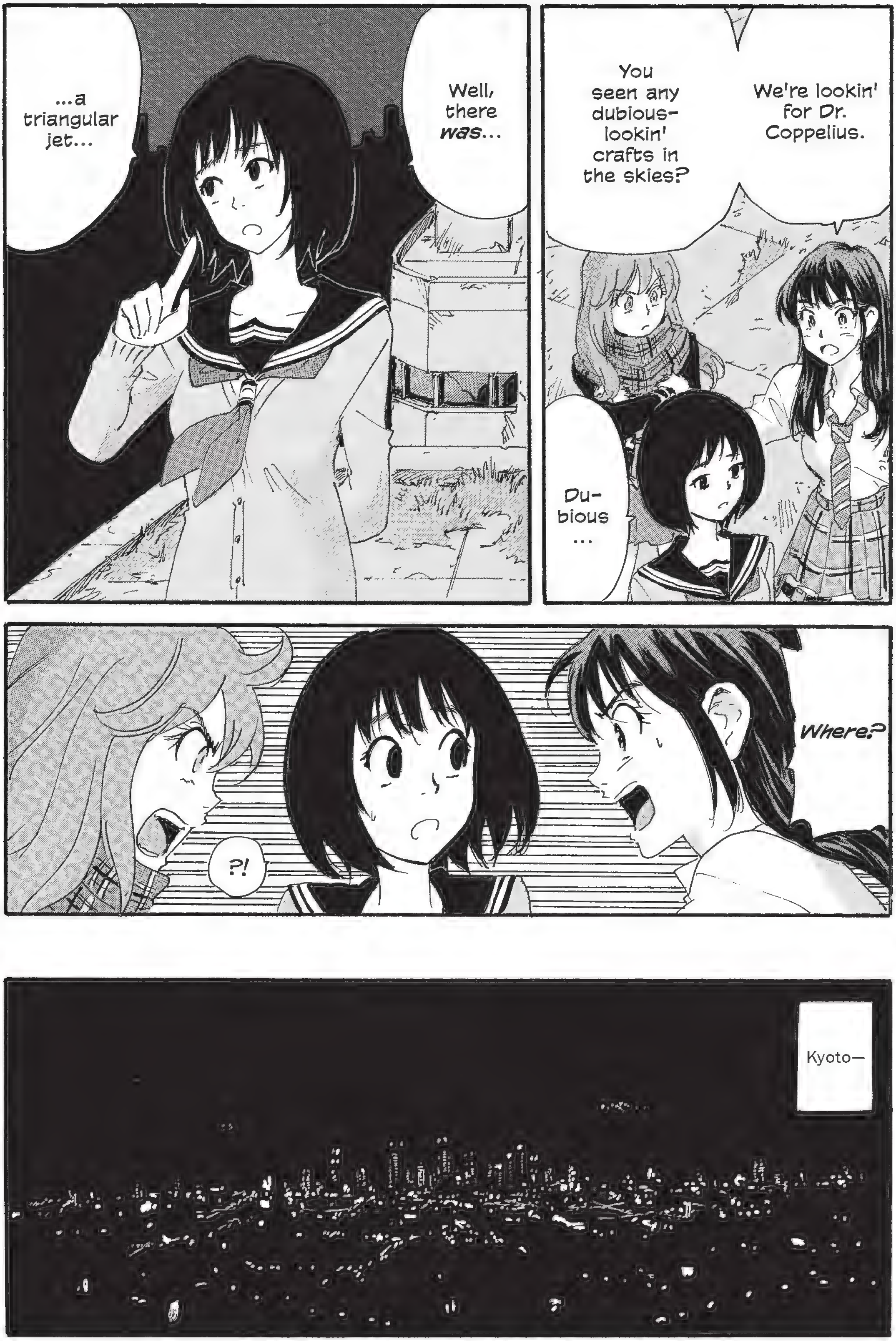

...No.
He's still in Tokyo!
He lived in secrecy for years and years...
This is the only place he can move freely.
You want to save *him?*
The man who created our nightmares?

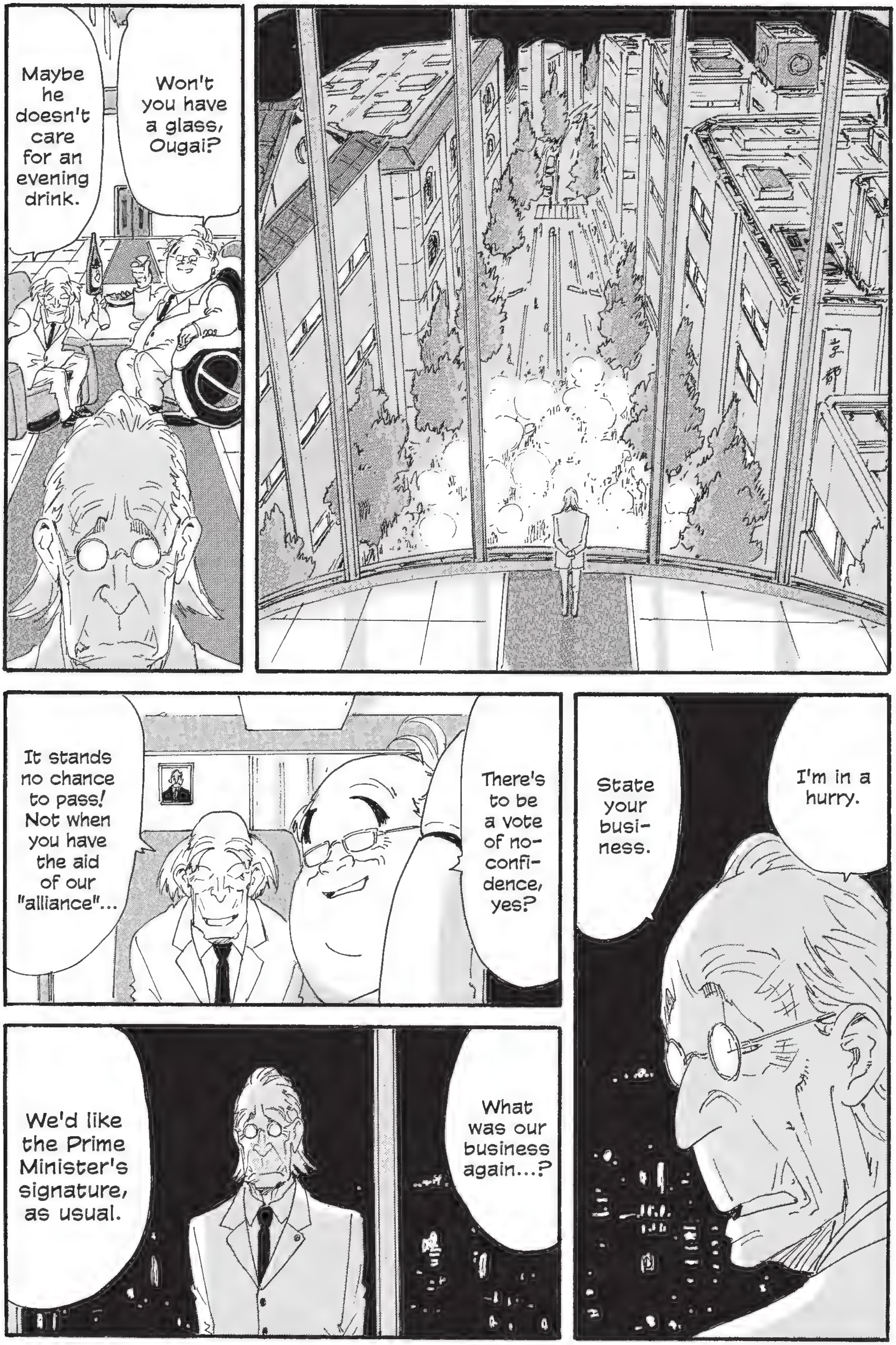

Nagoya Research Center—
SLURP
SLURP
SHHLRP
SHHLRP
BZZ
CUP
RINGALING
Ibara Naruse Incoming Call
Not again!
Doesn't she know how late it is?!
BEEP
I'd better get paid overtime for this!
Ah, Mr. Mushanokoji!
I have a favor to ask!
You're off the clock? This isn't the time to be kidding around!

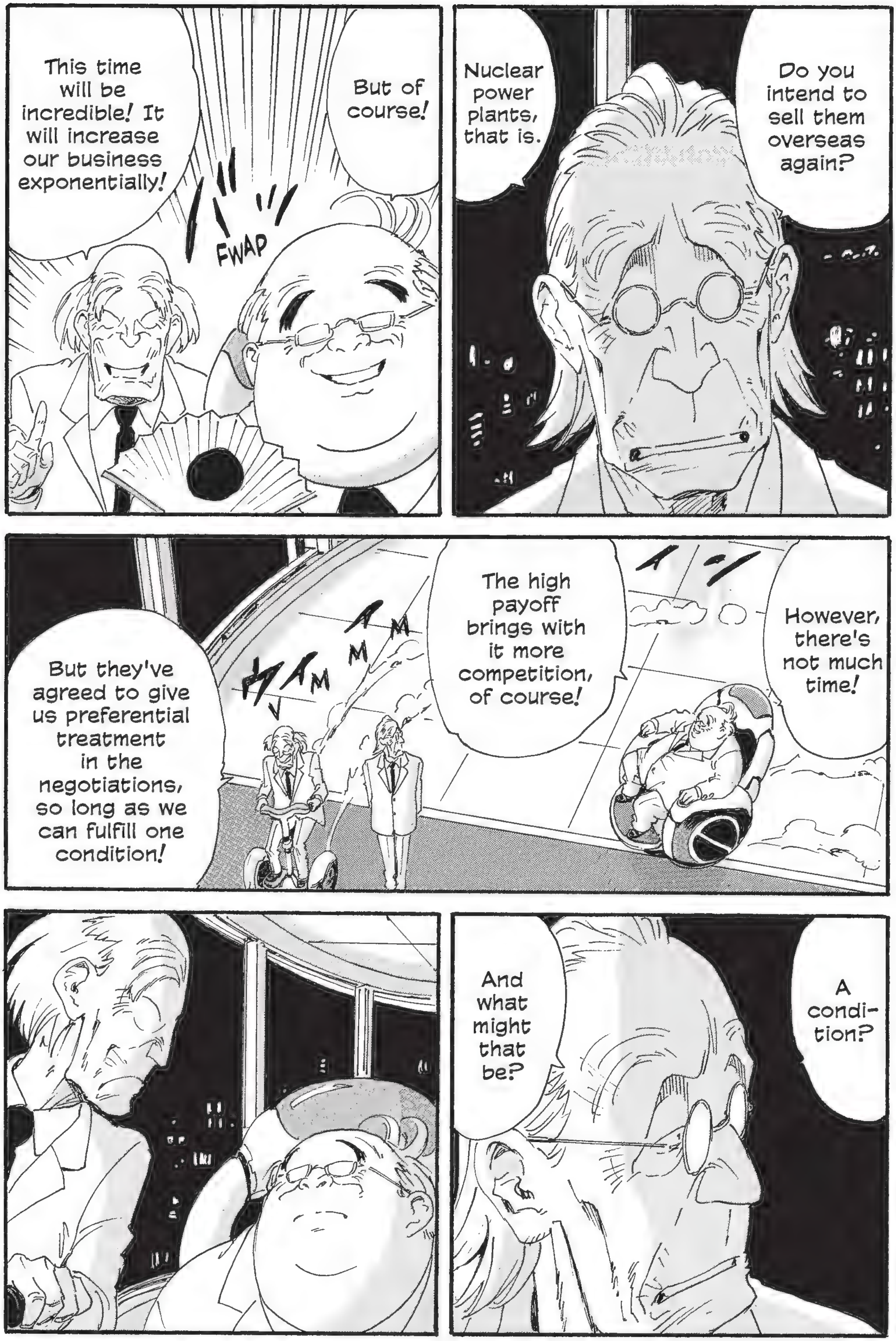

Yes, yes, I know!
KREE
What do you want me to hack *this* time?
...
Yes? What's that?
"Setsuna Itami"?
You want me to run that name through the public facility records?
Well...
CLACK
It's not as if I *can't* do it...

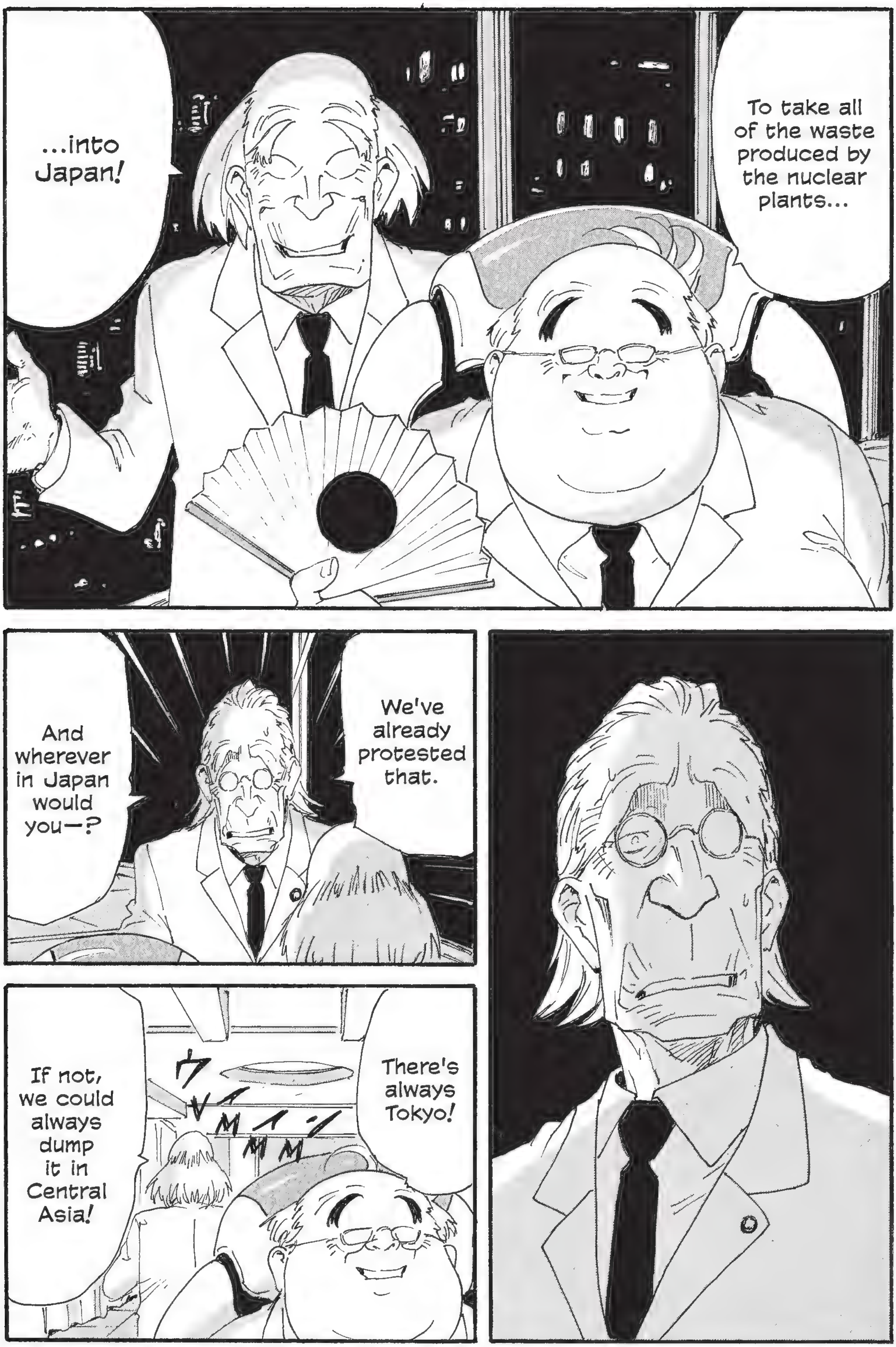

PING
Stop! You humans, get far away!
CLANG
Wh- What is it, Kanon?!
WHOA!
Mana Tsuburaya?!

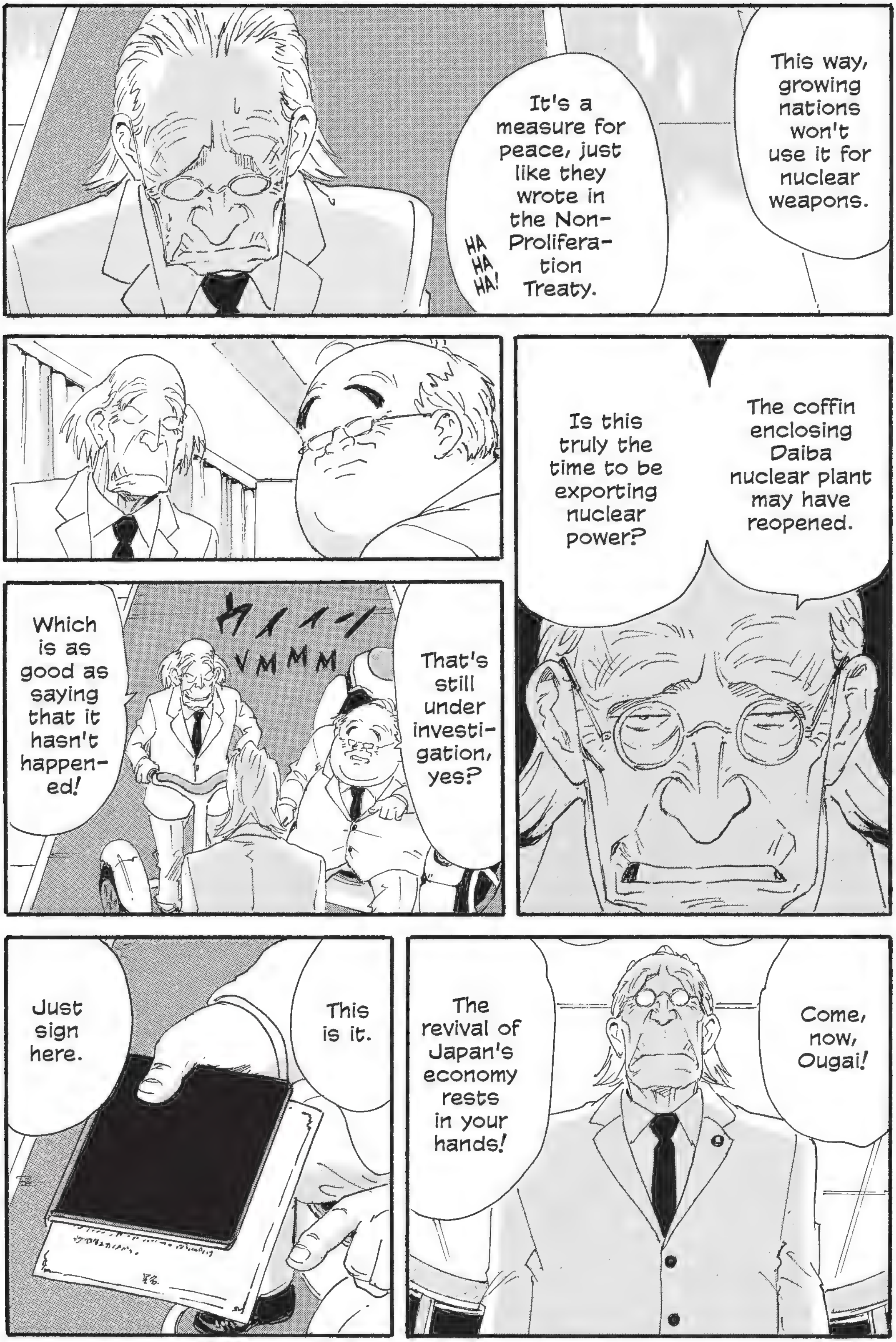

You ...!
HUFF
HUFF
Couldn't you have come down?! You're wearing us out!
Where've you been?!
Weren't you with Meisa Ichikawa?
She...
...went off...
...somewhere.
She thinks Dr. Coppelius betrayed her.
The poor thing...
She's all alone.
Look, that's the least of our worries!
Forget about Miss Sulky and help us out!

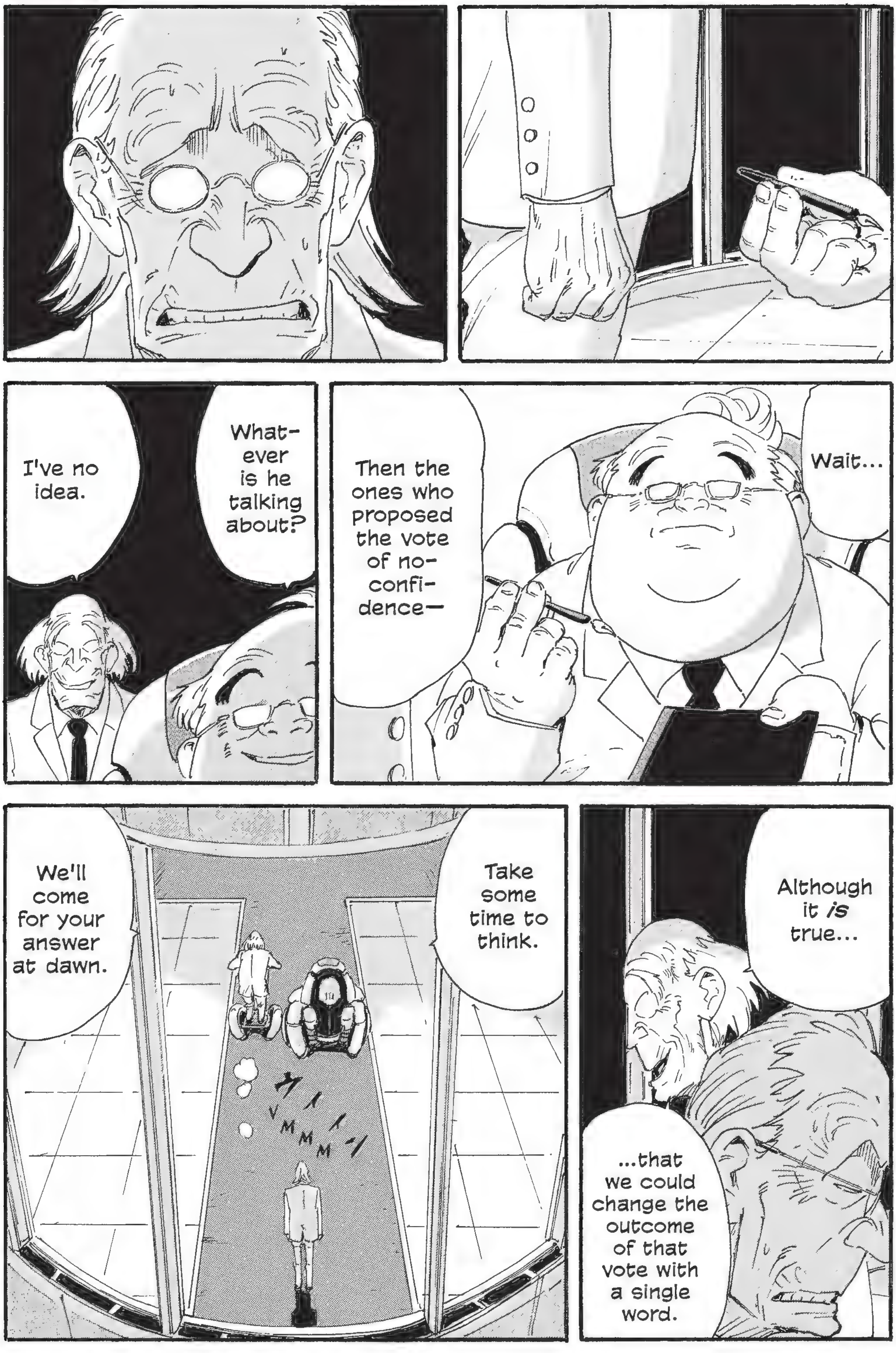

We're lookin' for Dr. Coppelius.
You seen any dubious-lookin' crafts in the skies?
Dubious...
Well, there *was*...
...a triangular jet...
Where?
?!
Kyoto—

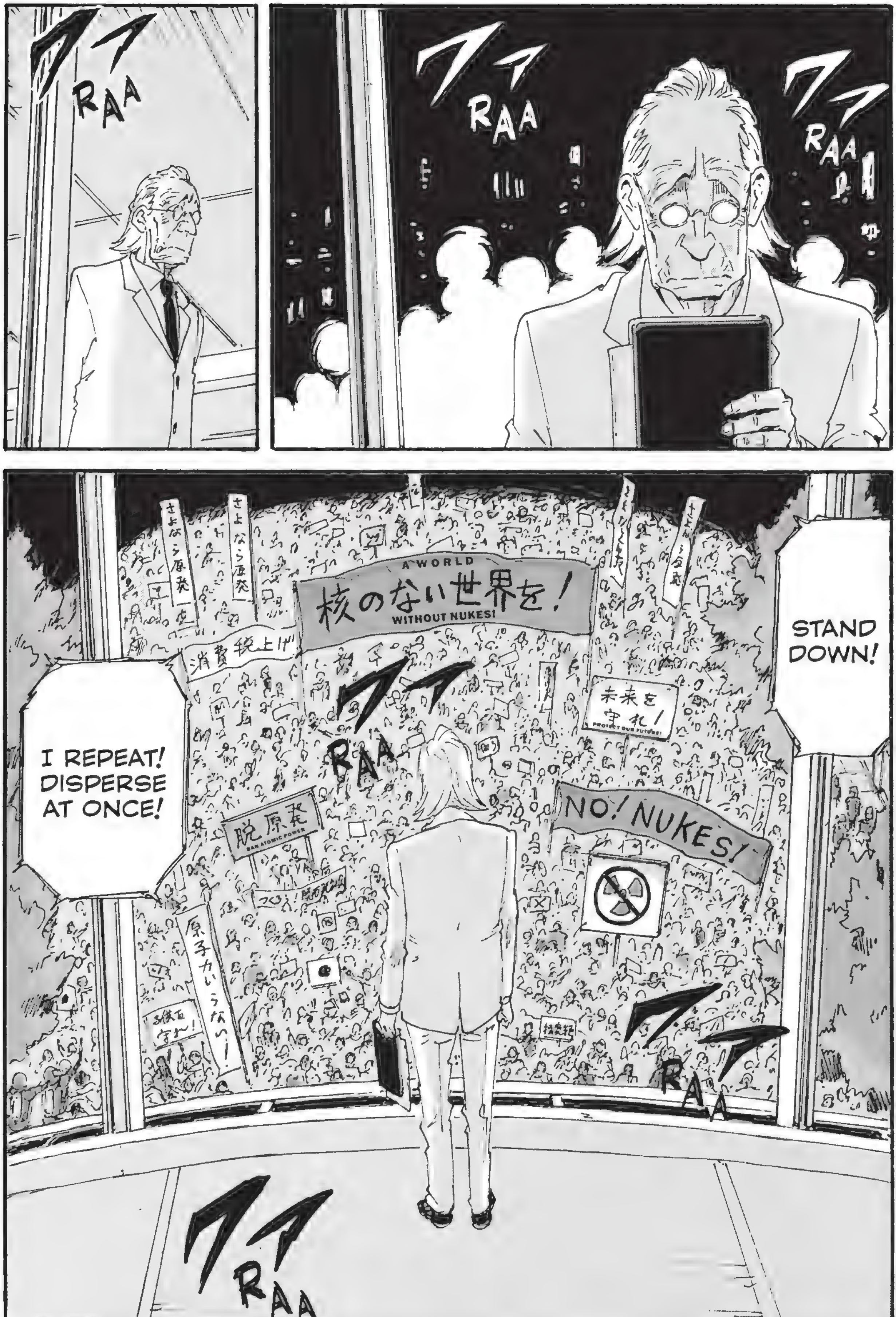

Won't you have a glass, Ougai?
Maybe he doesn't care for an evening drink.
I'm in a hurry.
State your business.
There's to be a vote of no-confidence, yes?
It stands no chance to pass! Not when you have the aid of our "alliance"...
What was our business again...?
We'd like the Prime Minister's signature, as usual.

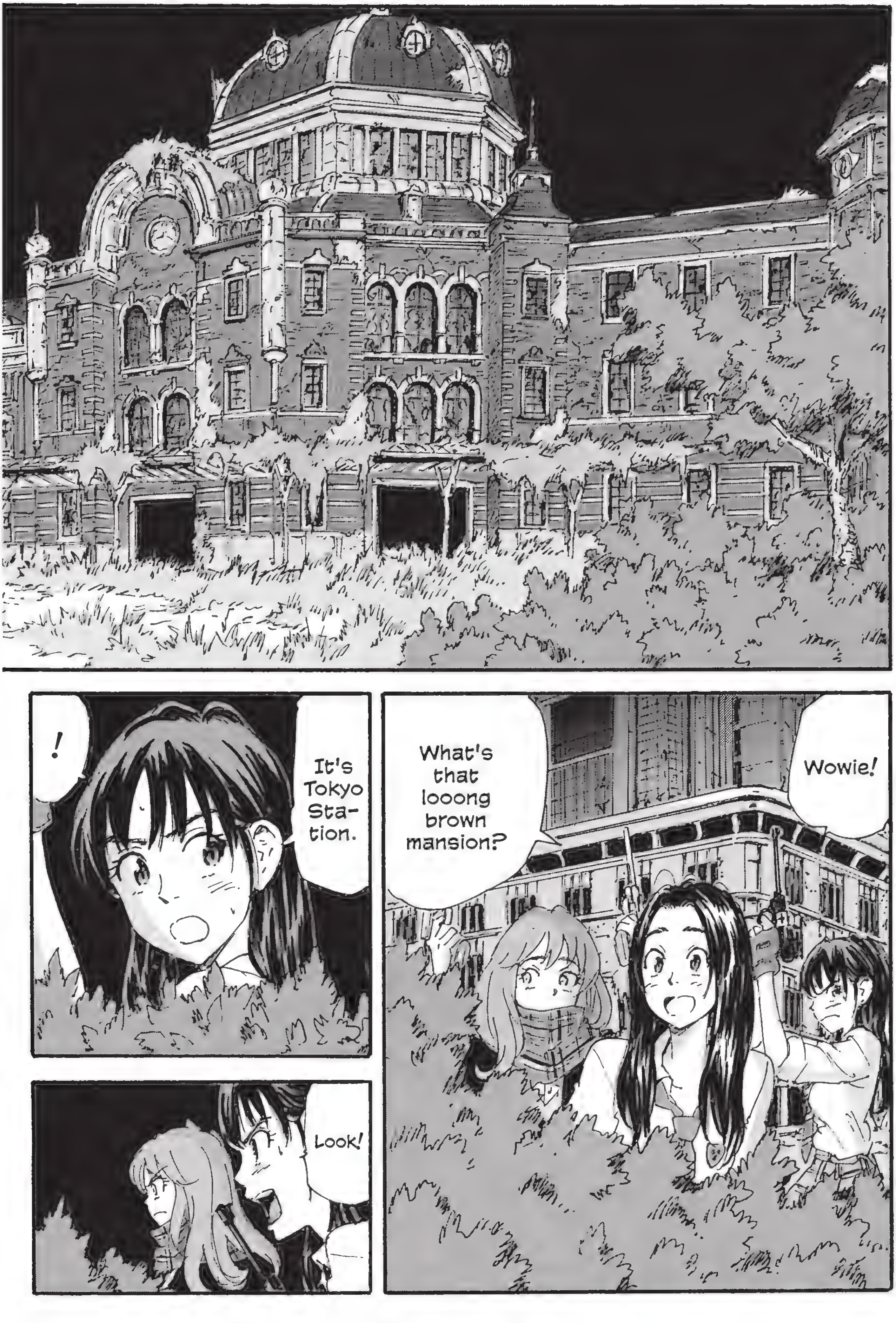

Do you intend to sell them overseas again?
Nuclear power plants, that is.
But of course!
FWAP
This time will be incredible! It will increase our business exponentially!
However, there's not much time!
The high payoff brings with it more competition, of course!
VWAMM
But they've agreed to give us preferential treatment in the negotiations, so long as we can fulfill one condition!
A condition?
And what might that be?

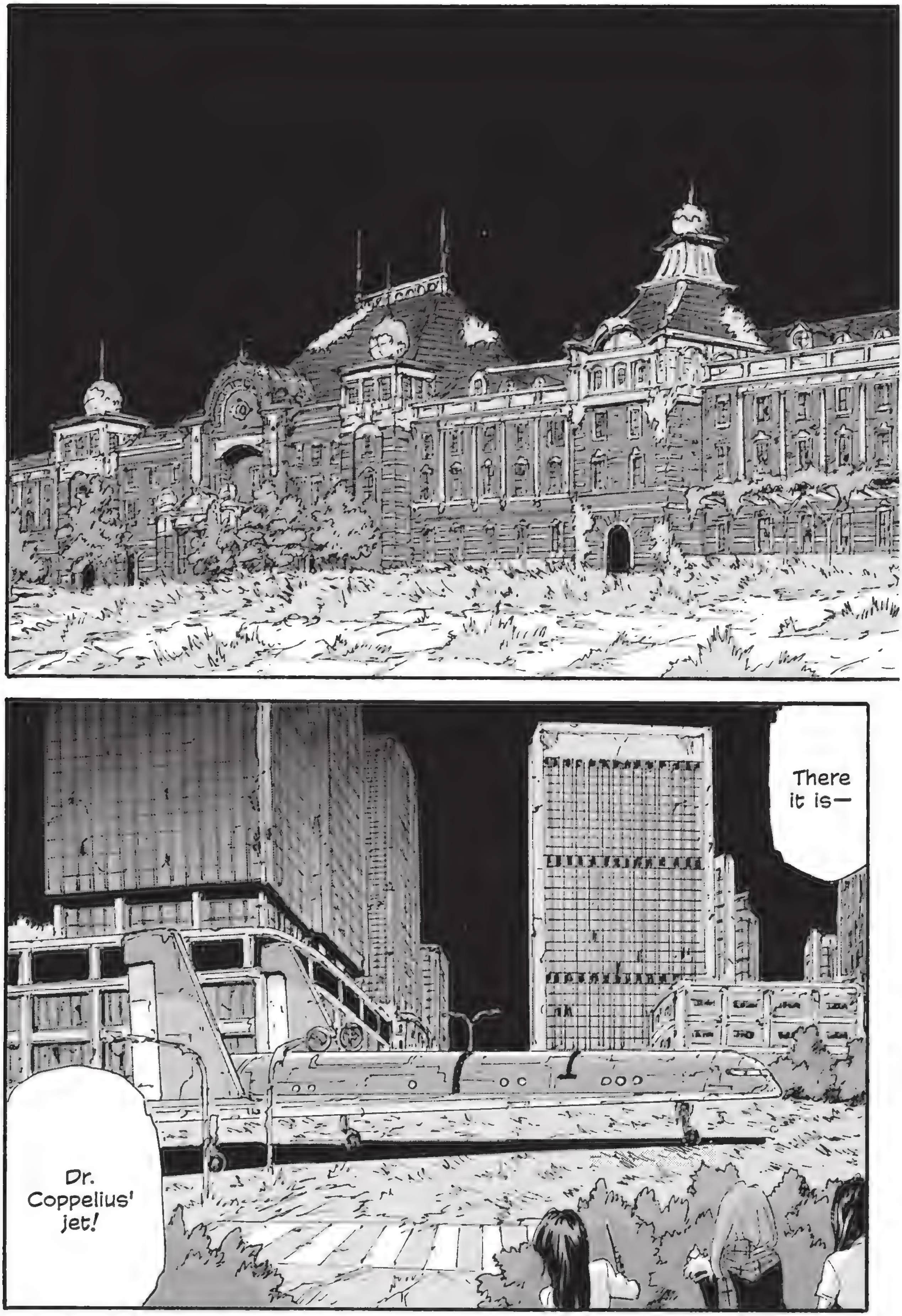

To take all of the waste produced by the nuclear plants...
...into Japan!
We've already protested that.
And wherever in Japan would you—?
There's always Tokyo!
ウイイン
VMMMM
If not, we could always dump it in Central Asia!

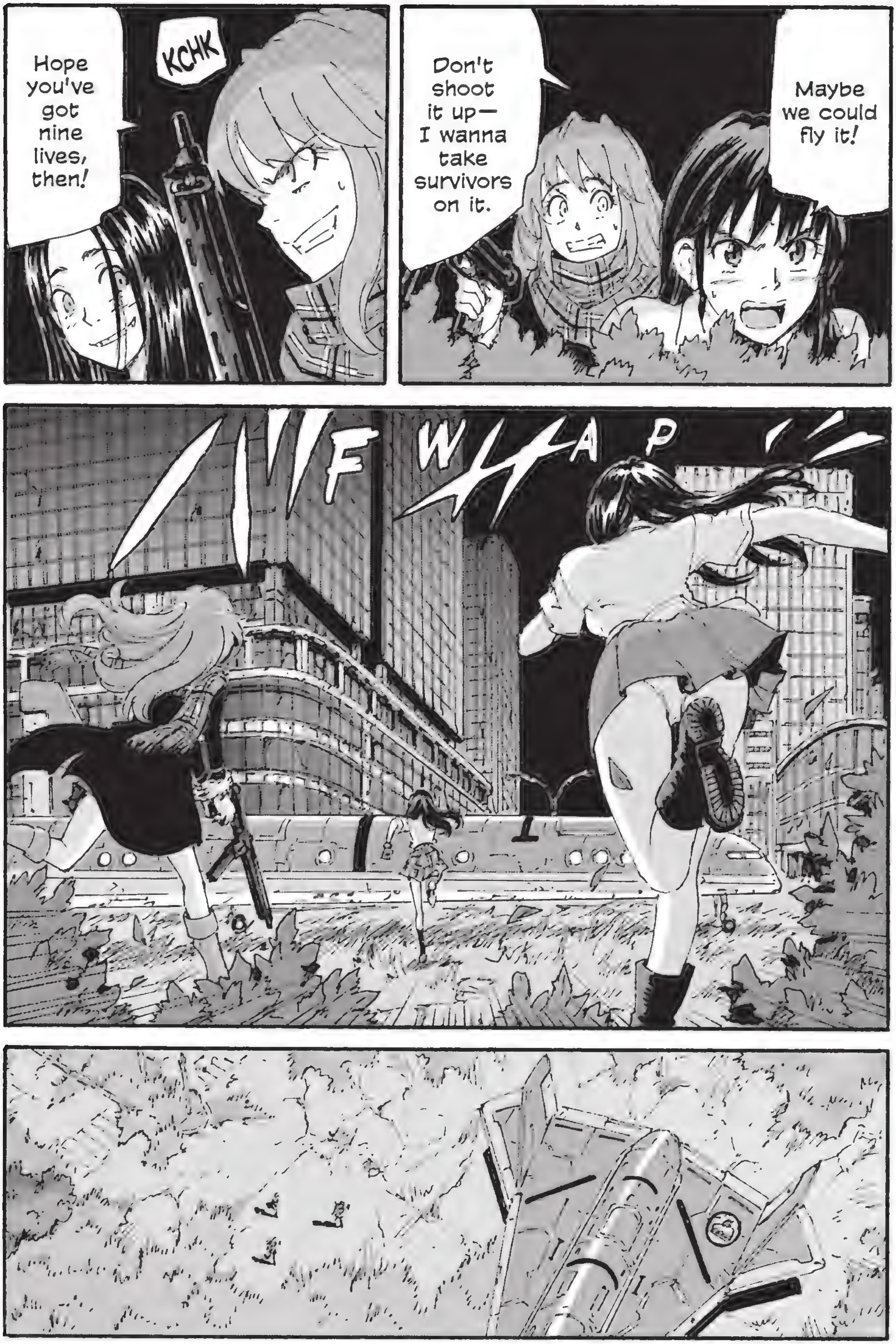

This way, growing nations won't use it for nuclear weapons.
It's a measure for peace, just like they wrote in the Non-Proliferation Treaty.
HA HA HA!
The coffin enclosing Daiba nuclear plant may have reopened.
Is this truly the time to be exporting nuclear power?
That's still under investigation, yes?
ウィイーン
VMMM
Which is as good as saying that it hasn't happened!
Come, now, Ougai!
The revival of Japan's economy rests in your hands!
This is it.
Just sign here.

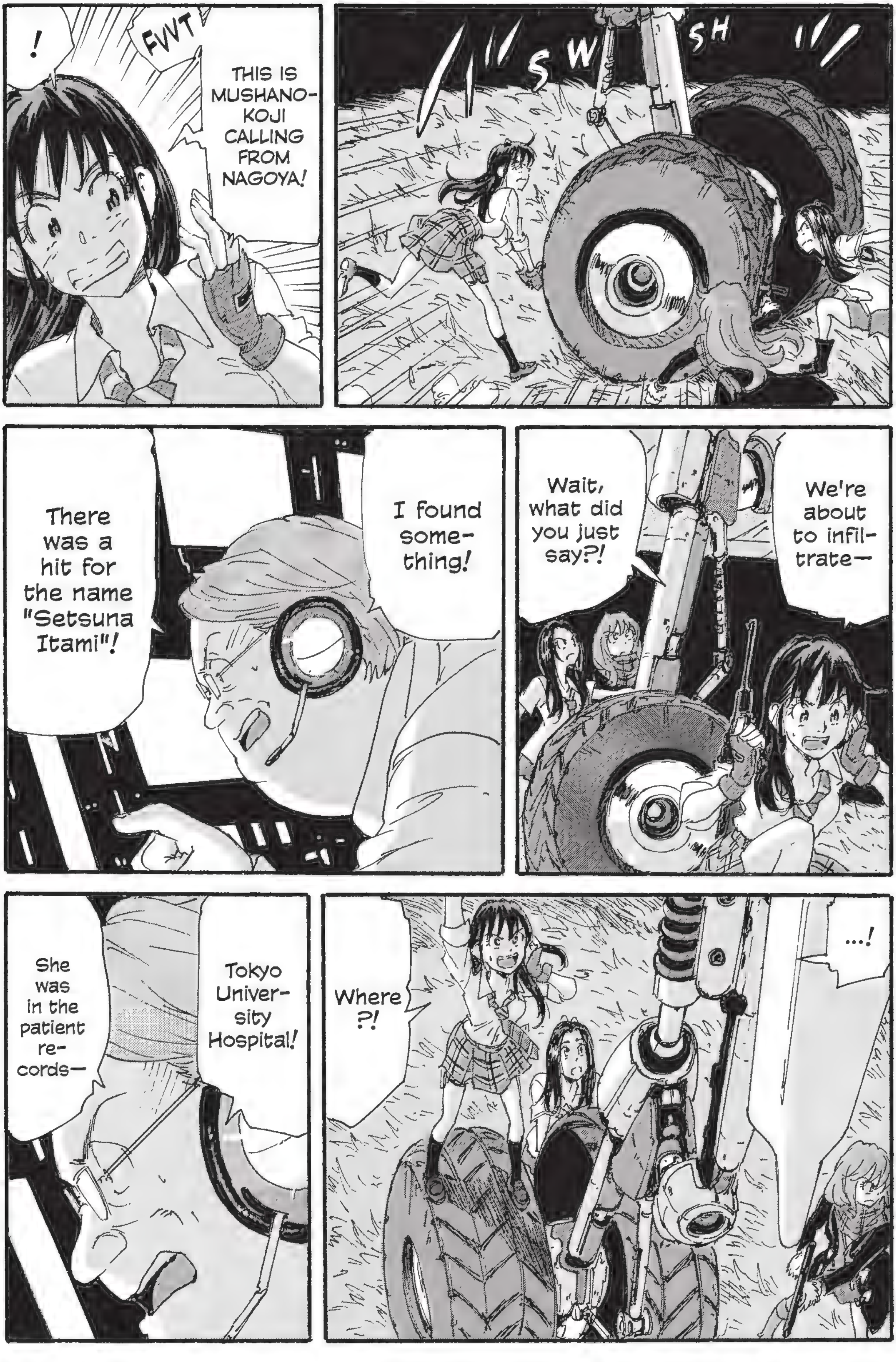

Wait...
Then the ones who proposed the vote of no-confidence—
Whatever is he talking about?
I've no idea.
Although it *is* true...
...that we could change the outcome of that vote with a single word.
Take some time to think.
VMMM
We'll come for your answer at dawn.

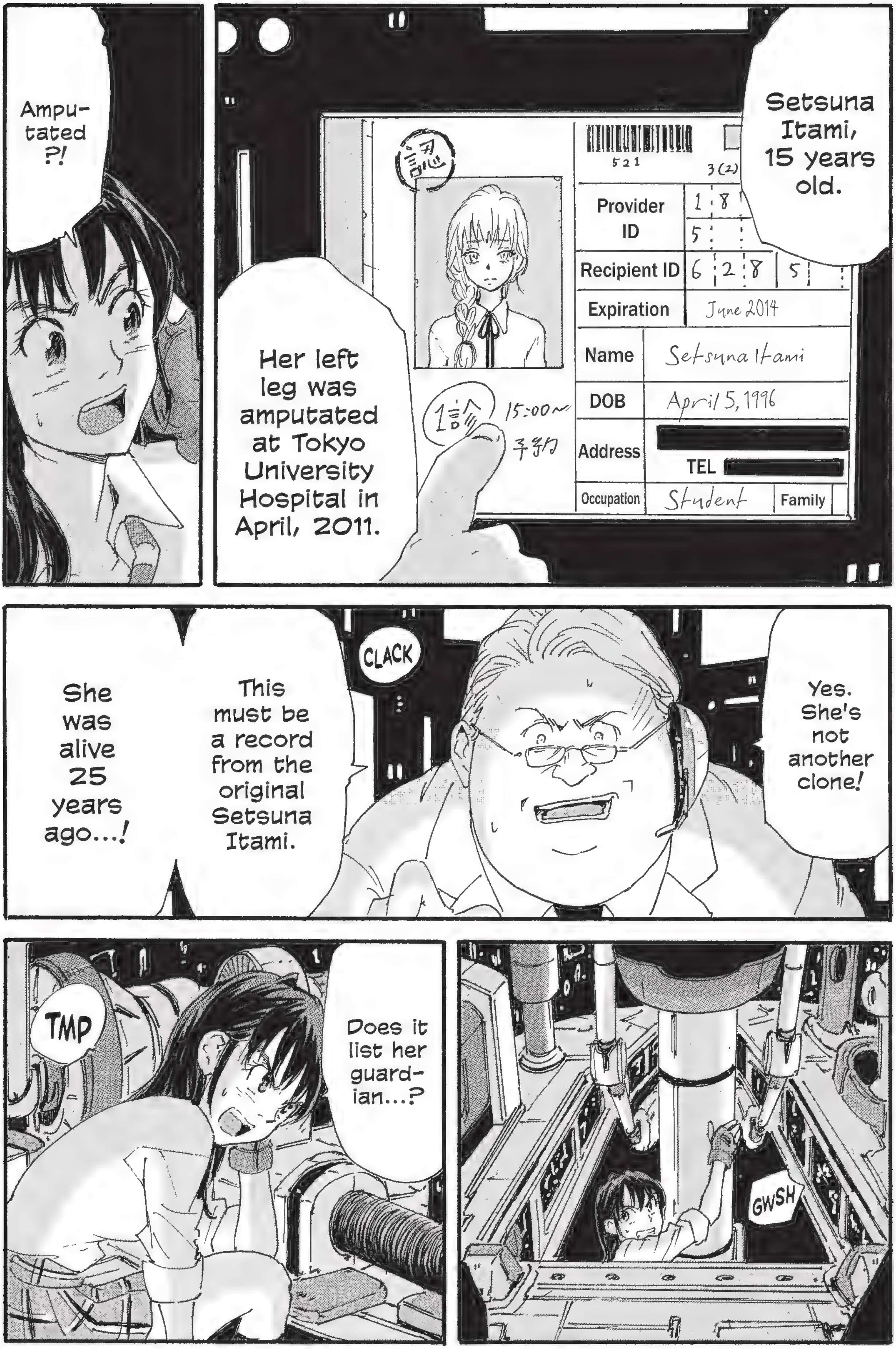

ワァ RAA
ワァ RAA
ワァ RAA
さよなら原発
さよなら原発
A WORLD 核のない世界を！ WITHOUT NUKES!
消費税上げ
未来を守れ！ PROTECT OUR FUTURE!
脱原発 BAN ATOMIC POWER
NO! NUKES!
原子力いらない！
STAND DOWN!
I REPEAT! DISPERSE AT ONCE!
ワァ RAA
ワァ RAA
ワァ RAA


Wowie!
What's that looong brown mansion?
!
It's Tokyo Station.
Look!


There it is—
Dr. Coppelius' jet!

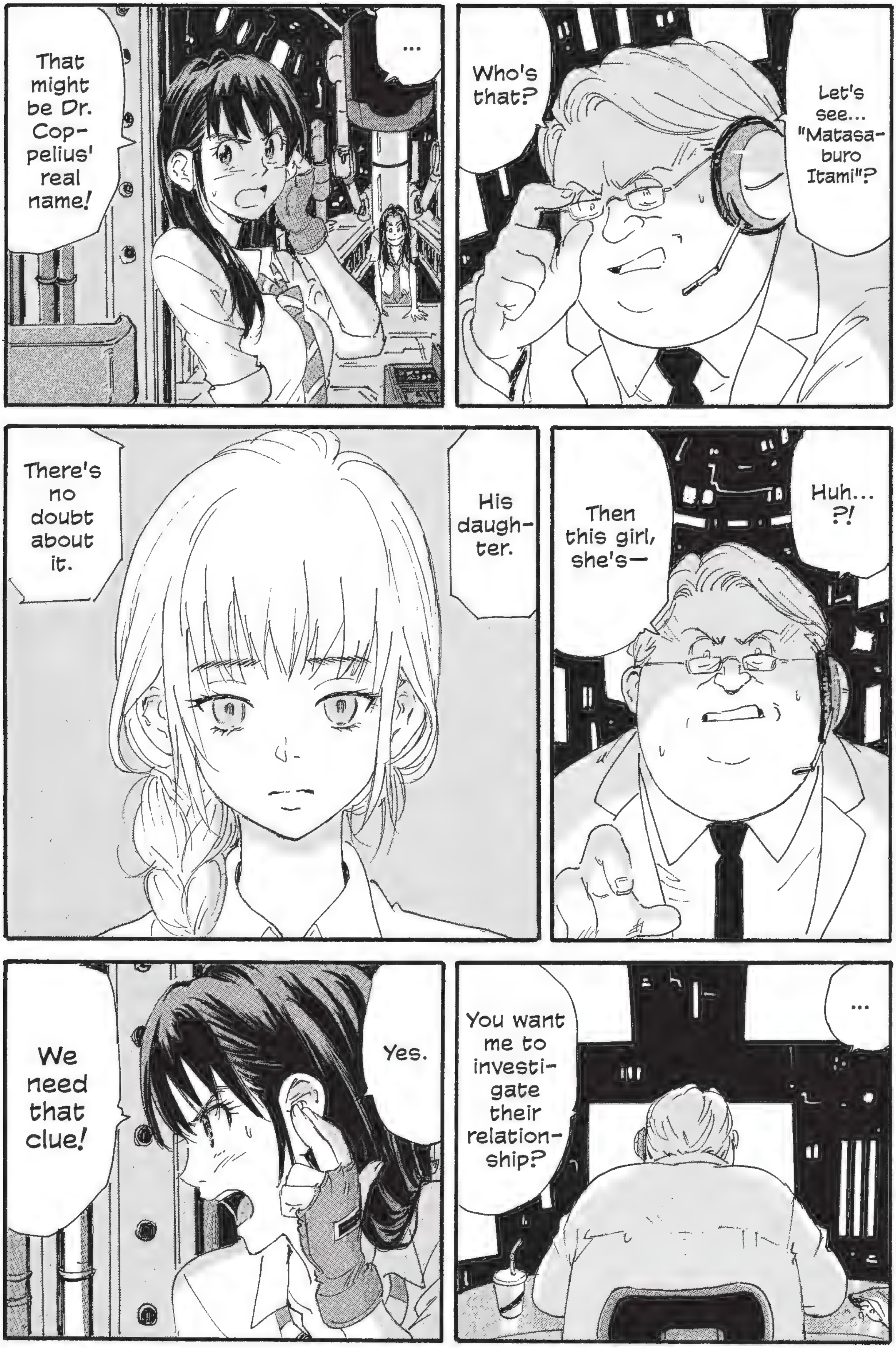

Maybe we could fly it!
Don't shoot it up— I wanna take survivors on it.
KCHK
Hope you've got nine lives, then!
FWHAP

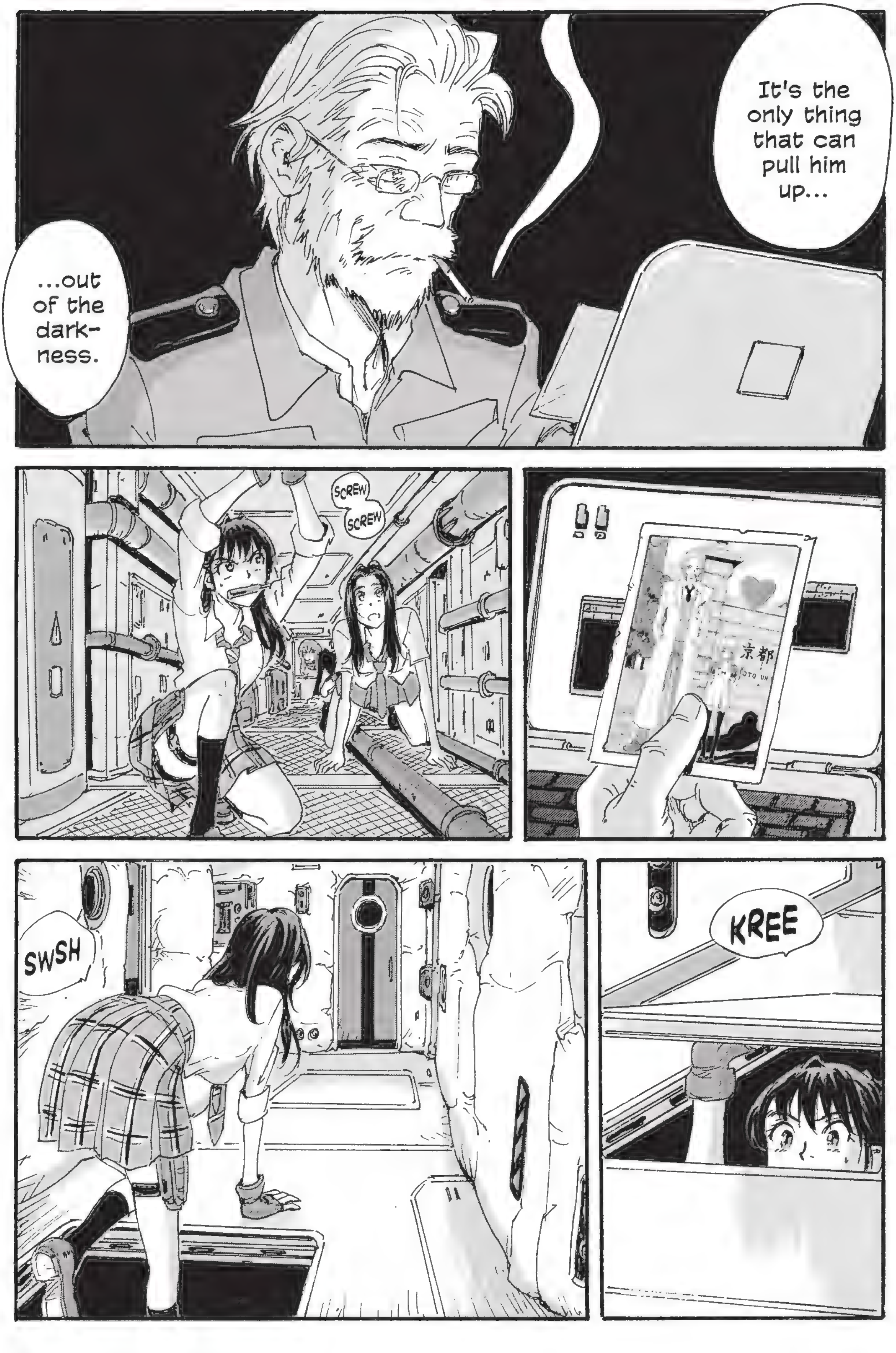

SWISH
FVVT
THIS IS MUSHANOKOJI CALLING FROM NAGOYA!
!
We're about to infiltrate—
Wait, what did you just say?!
I found something!
There was a hit for the name "Setsuna Itami"!
...!
Where?!
Tokyo University Hospital!
She was in the patient records—

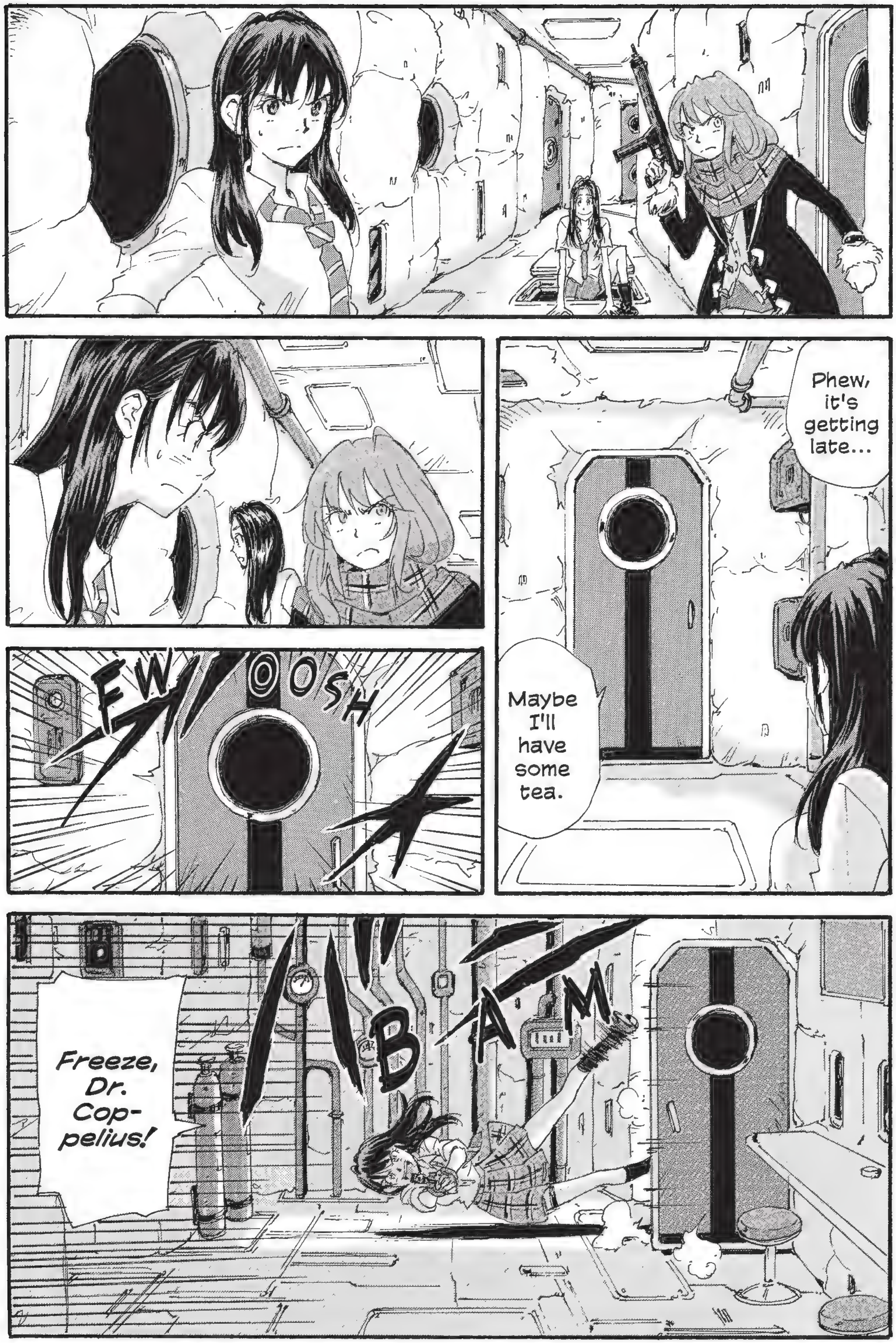

Setsuna Itami, 15 years old.
Her left leg was amputated at Tokyo University Hospital in April, 2011.
Amputated?!
Yes. She's not another clone!
CLACK
This must be a record from the original Setsuna Itami.
She was alive 25 years ago...!
GWSH
Does it list her guardian...?
TMP
認
1診 15:00~ 予約

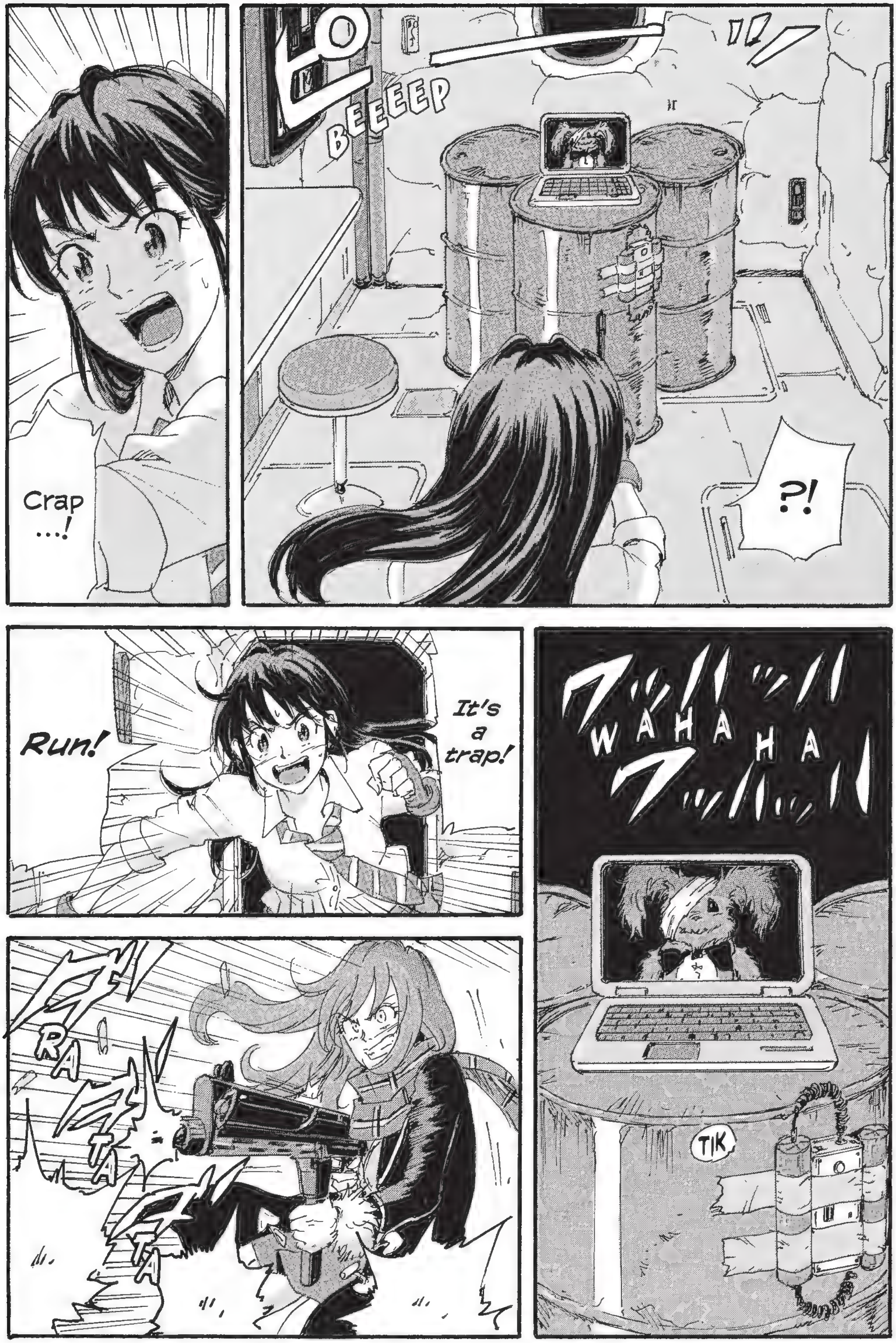
521 3(2)

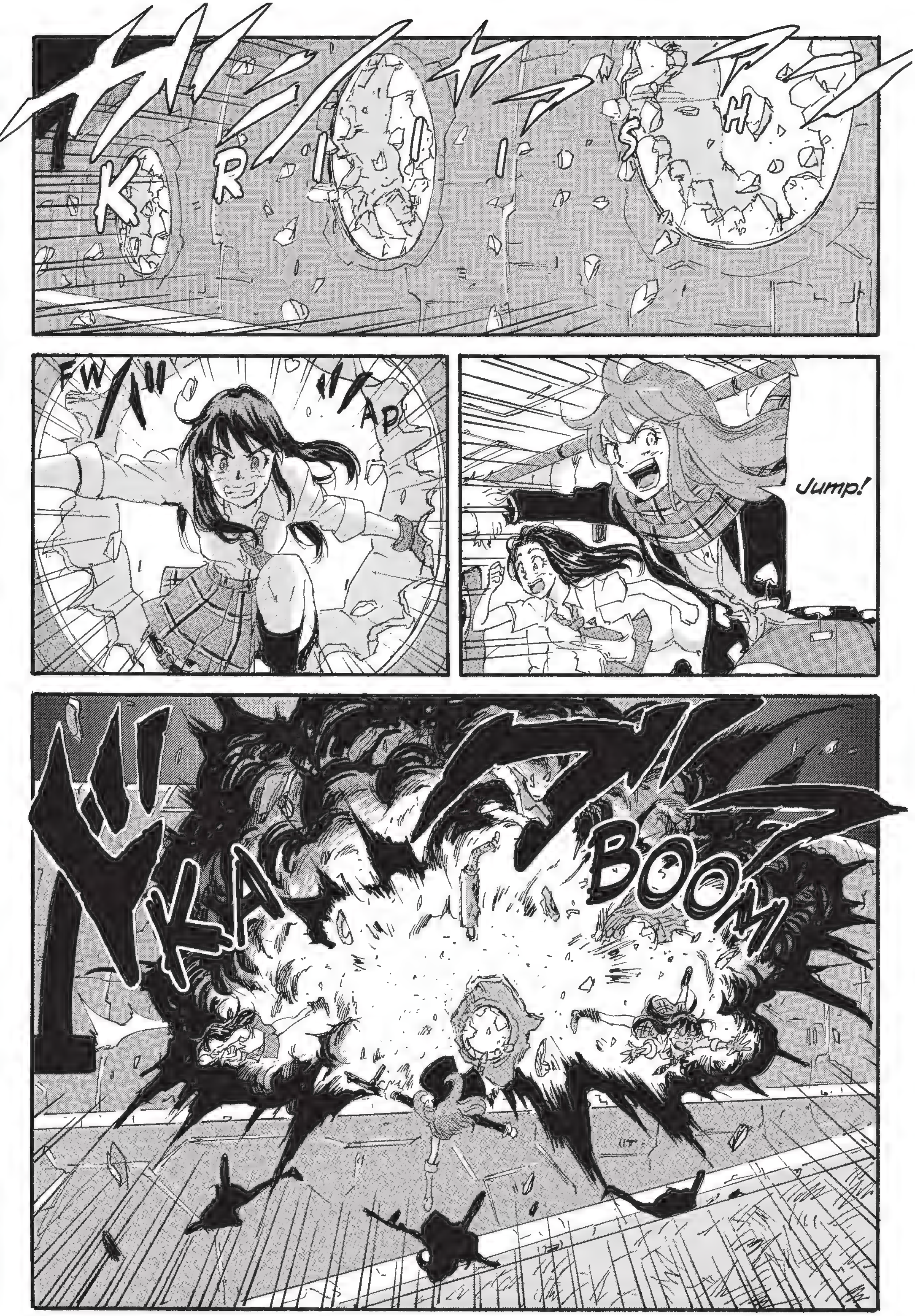
Provider ID	1 8 5
Recipient ID	6 2 8 5
Expiration	June 2014
Name	Setsuna Itami
DOB	April 5, 1996
Address	[redacted]
TEL	[redacted]
Occupation	Student
Family	

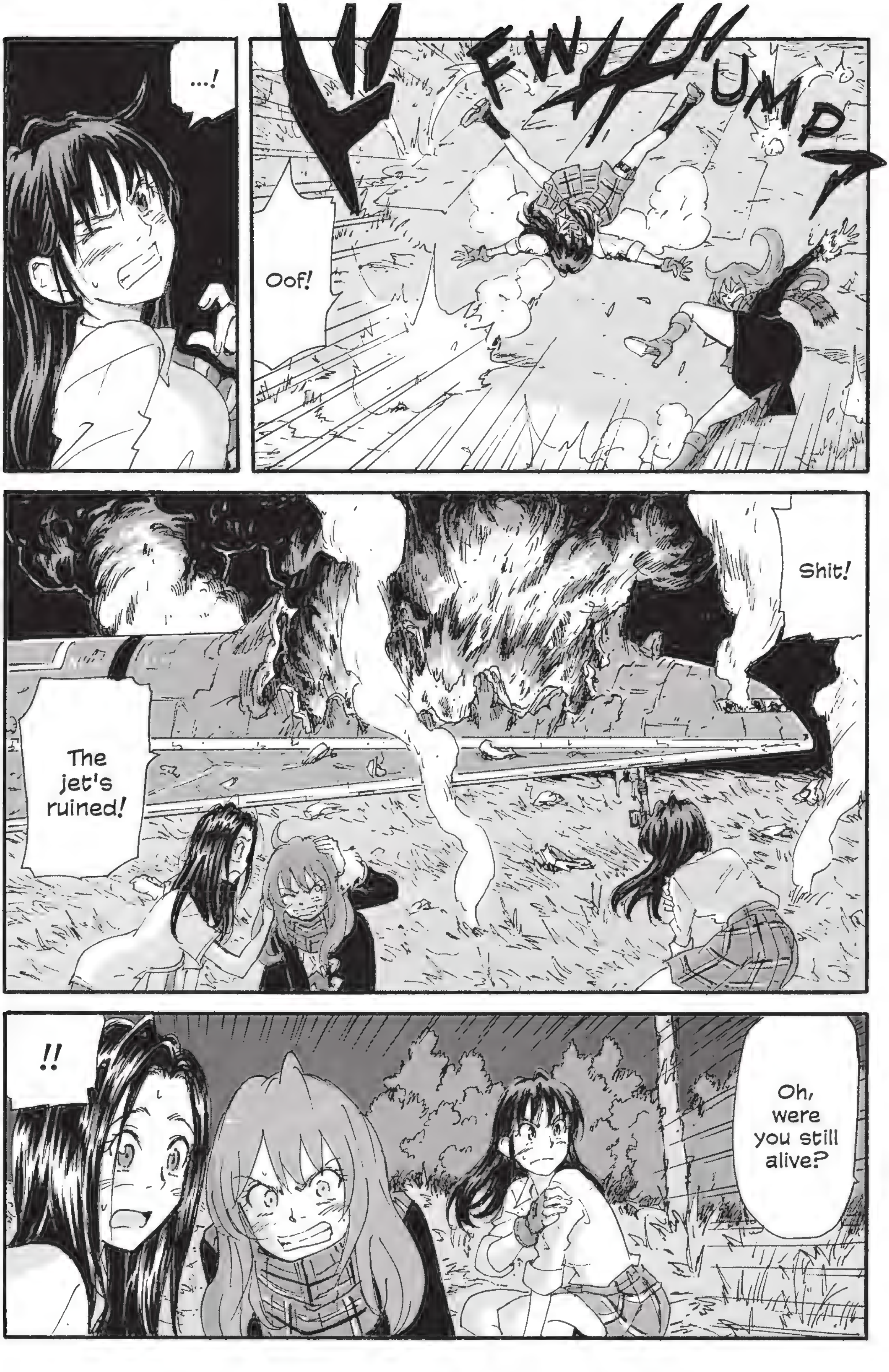

Let's see... "Matasaburo Itami"?
Who's that?
...
That might be Dr. Coppelius' real name!
Huh...?!
Then this girl, she's—
His daughter.
There's no doubt about it.
...
You want me to investigate their relationship?
Yes.
We need that clue!

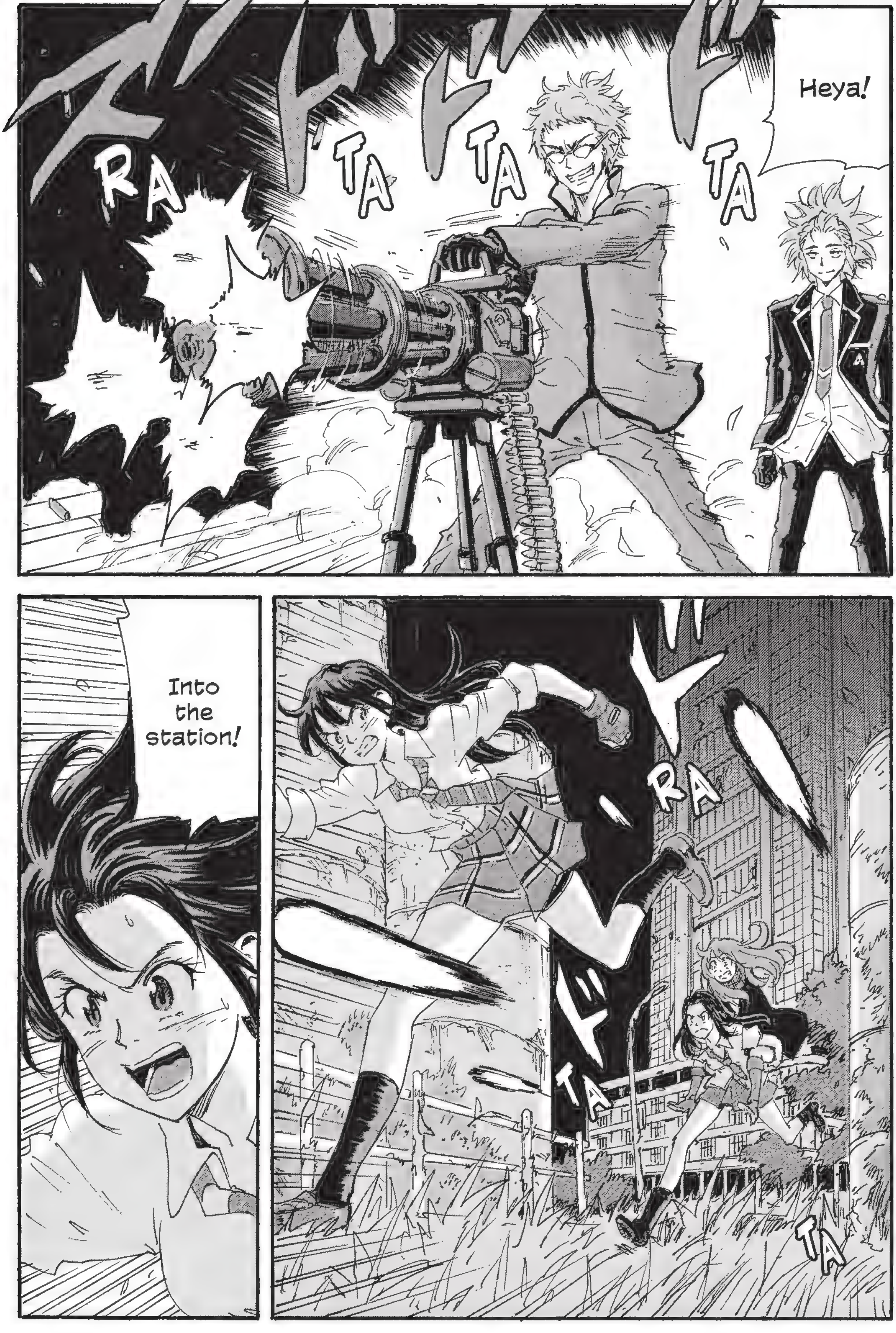

It's the only thing that can pull him up...
...out of the darkness.
京都
SCREW
SCREW
KREE
SWSH

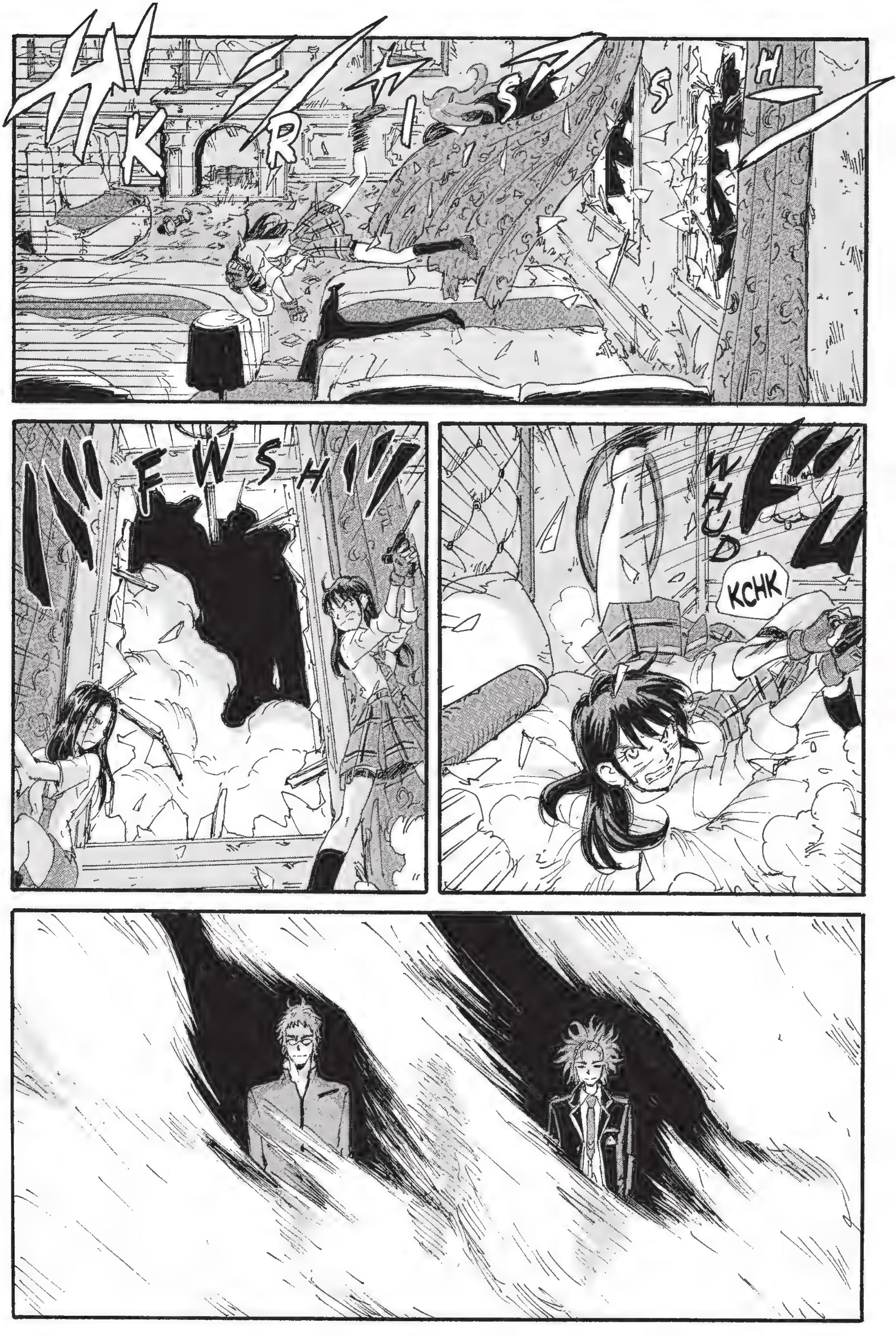

Phew, it's getting late...
Maybe I'll have some tea.
FWOOSH
BAM
Freeze, Dr. Coppelius!

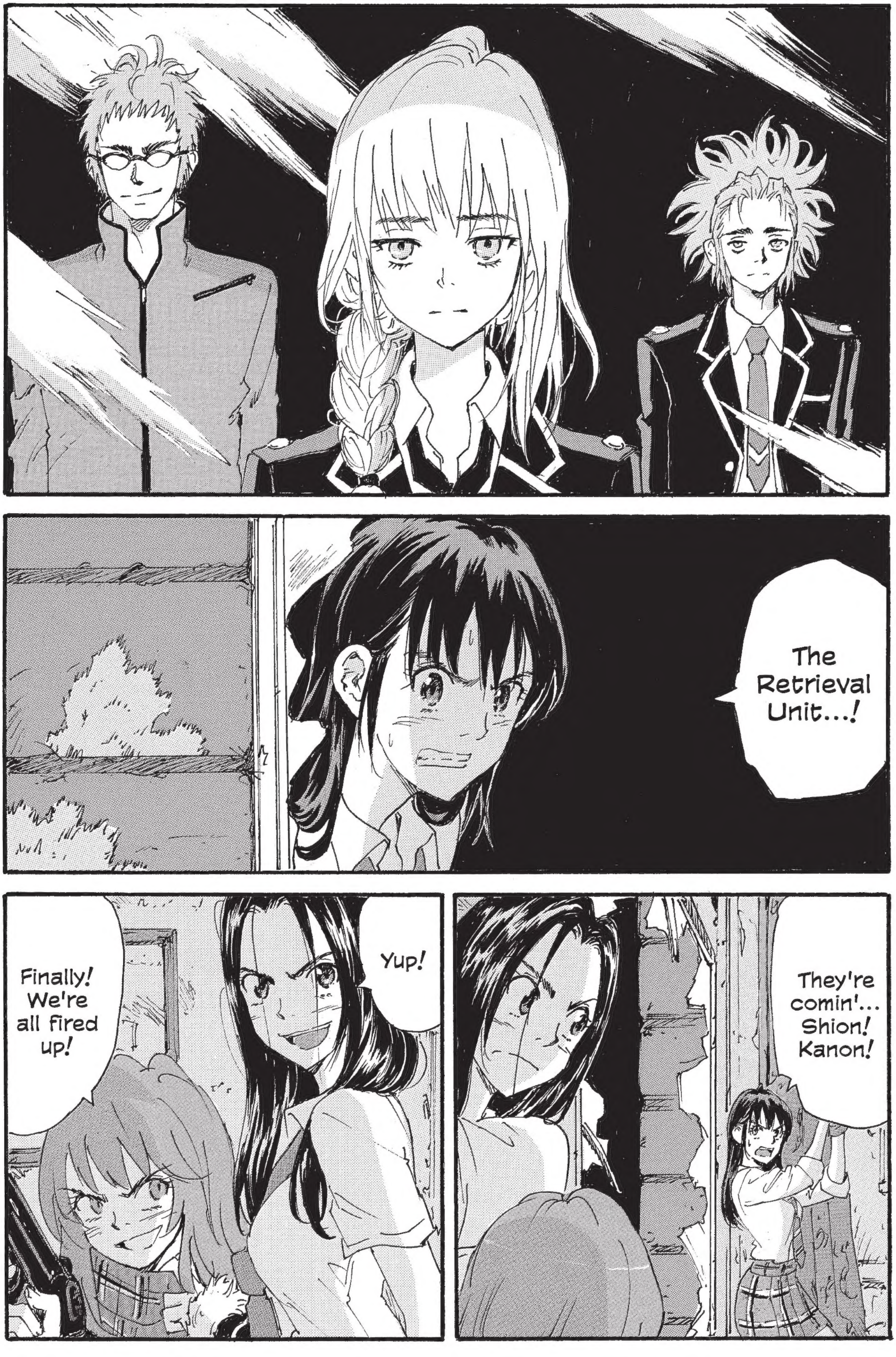

ピー
BEEEEP
?!
Crap ...!
ワッハッハ
WAHAHA
ワッハッハ
TIK
It's a trap!
Run!
RA
TA
TA
TA

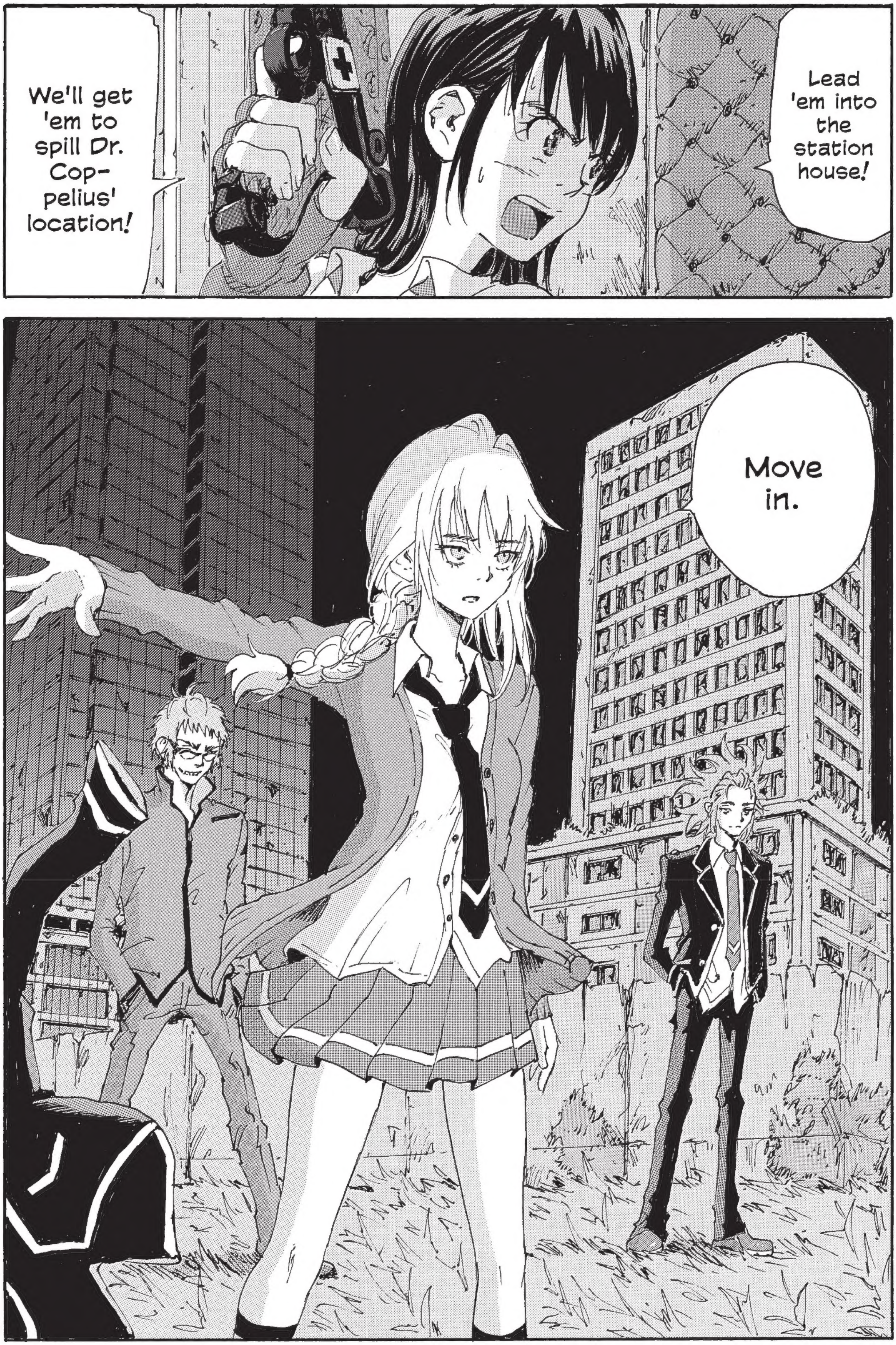

KRIISH
Jump!
FWAP
KA-BOOM


FWUMP
Oof!
...!
Shit!
The jet's ruined!
Oh, were you still alive?
!!

Heya!
RA
TA
TA
TA
RA
TA
TA
Into the station!


KRISSH
WHUD
KCHK
FWSH


The Retrieval Unit...!
They're comin'... Shion! Kanon!
Yup!
Finally! We're all fired up!


Lead 'em into the station house!
We'll get 'em to spill Dr. Coppelius' location!
Move in.

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KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

STORY AND ART BY TOMONORI INOUE

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Shadowcat